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TOWN OF NORTH READING
Massachusetts

**Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes of
Monday, February 3, 2020
Town Hall, Room 5 at 7pm**

Attendance:

Committee Members: Ron Kern (RK), Sergio Coviello (SC), Pat Filmore (PF), Mike Fitzpatrick (MF), Rita Mullin (RM), Billie Luker (BL)

Staff: Maureen Stevens (MS), Marty Tilton (MT), Lynne Clemens (LC), Maria Brown (MB)

Tardy:

Absent: Sheila Sturdevant (SS)

Call to order: 7:00pm; Quorum, called by RK

Audience of Citizens: None

Acceptance of Minutes:

(PF) made a motion to accept Meeting Minutes of January 13, 2020.

(MF) Second the Motion

Approved: 6 Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Motion: PASSED

NEW BUSINESS:

North Reading Youth Soccer (NRYS) proposal to turf Maguire Field: MT was approached by NRYS & Aztec Soccer with an idea for them to pay to turf two fields at Maguire Field on Chestnut Street. RM voiced her concerns and opposition to the idea. Lots of questions opposed by Committee. It was determined that NRYS Board members should make a presentation to the Recreation Committee at our next meeting. MS/MT we will invite them to attend and present their ideas.

4, 12 and 14 Concord Street/Turkey Farm: TA asked for each department to come up with thoughts of how we would use the Turkey farm if purchased by Town. There was a bid by a local company, Coviello Electric. Town has the first right of refusal because it was a farm. They were only charged farm taxes (lower). Committee's ideas of how to utilize property if purchased by Town are as follows:

- Dog park
- Baseball field/softball
- Sports complex/field house
- Community center
- Hockey rink

Committee was asked if they were in favor of these ideas for TA to present to BOS if the Town were to purchase this property:

Approved: 4 Opposed: 1 Abstained: 1 (SC) Motion to present these ideas to TA/BOS Passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

BBQ Canopy Update: it was decided that the subcommittee (RM, RK, MT, SC) should meet with LUC members in February to discuss leaving the tent up for the duration of the BBQ Series and possibly through early Fall for rentals.

Open Space – there is no update. The meeting held on January 17th was only attended by 3 NR residents. There is another meeting on February 11, 2020 at 3pm. An update will be given at next meeting.

MT/Parks Director: Update

MT has his employees rehabbing trailers, most picnic tables are done. They are now working on equipment maintenance.

MT involved in lots of open space, planning, ASC meetings.

LC/Recreation: Update

- New Winter 2020 Recreation session started today. All class registrations are doing well.
- I have begun advertising for Summer employment, Directors and counselors. Trying to find the right place to advertise. RM suggested asking Youth Services.
- Working on adjusting rates for summer programs. Minimum wage will be going up. Need to wait until NRPS finalizes their school year and last day of school.
- We're putting the brochures in library, Ryders, online, transcript, NR Welcomes. Suggestion was made to give to local real estate agencies, dentist, and pediatricians.
- Special events are doing well, sold out. BL mentioned that he did not feel that other Town Recreation Departments had as much to offer as we do.
- Offering Trips – advertising yearly offerings.
- I was asked by a senior resident to look into offering Zumba.

MS/Operations Director Update:

- MS met with TA and Finance Director to go over budget, everything went well.
 - TA & Finance are fine with adding the mower as a Capital Item.
- Park's seasonal position has been advertised.
- Starting to work on Permits for leagues, etc.

LUC (RM): RM asked if we could put a sign on tennis courts at IRP, “No dogs or scooters allowed”. MT confirmed that there is a sign that states “Tennis Only”.

LC mentioned that MT will be lining tennis courts for Pickleball. May consider investing in a lockbox with a code to gain access to nets, etc. RM mentioned possibility of paving horseshoe pits for pickleball court. MT brought up that he thought Park Street (old dog park) property would be perfect for pickleball court.

RM – LUC meeting next week to discuss discontinuing Farmers market. Possibility of doing a co-op with other towns.

Concord Street/Turkey Farm: LUC charged with open space working with Recreation to come up with a list of potential uses.

CIT (RM): New Tabaco regulations. BOH regulations stating distance from schools. No smoking on public property. Vaping an issue, BOH determining guidelines.

Trainings: Mental Health training, eating disorders, suicide prevention, dementia friendly awareness, elderly outreach.

FONRPRC:

Character Breakfast – did well. Profit was \$2,930. Food great, lots of complements. May need to update supply amounts.

Wine & Food Social – tickets are up for sale. MT putting up banner at Ryers.

Next Recreation Committee Meeting: Monday, March 2, 2020.

- **Adjournment:**

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(SC) made a motion to adjourn meeting at 8:38pm.

(BL) seconds the motion.

Approved: 6 Opposed: 0

Abstained: 0

Motion: PASSED

