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TOWN OF NORTH READING

*Massachusetts*

**Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes of  
Monday, October 1, 2018  
Town Hall, Room 5 at 7pm**

**Attendance:**

**Committee Members:** Ron Kern (RK), Pat Filmore (PF), Sergio Coviello (SC), Sheila Sturdevant (SS), Rita Mullin (RM), Billie Luker (BL), Rick Arington (RA)

**Staff:** Maureen Stevens (MS), Marty Tilton (MT), Maria Brown (MB)

**Tardy:**

**Absent:** Lynne Clemens (LC)

**Call to order:** 7:06pm; Quorum, called by RK

**Audience of Citizens:** Melissa Burns

**Dog Park Discussion**

Meredith Burns spoke to Andy Schultz regarding the dog park. His view was that the BOS would support a dog park depending on circumstances/location. P&R needs to recommend appropriate site. Then BOS and Town needs to approve at Town meeting. Friends of Dog Park would raise funds. They would apply for Stanton Foundation Grant, but there is a requirement for a water source or possible mobile water source. They would also need a liaison from Town and they would need someone to maintain site.

RM discussed locations that were mentioned for a potential dog park.

1. North Parish Park – this location is off the list. P&R voted 2 years ago to allow Veterans sign to be placed at this location. Should be kept as more of a passive area.
2. Walmart site – RM spoke to Walmart. They mentioned how they didn't allow a sports league to practice behind site due to liability. RM spoke to NR Town Planner (Danielle McNight) they discussed the land by the NR Post Office. It was determined this site was wetland. This location is no longer on the list.
3. Rita Mullin Field – there are wetlands in the lower end of this area. MT and PF mentioned that parking is a problem when a large event is held there. They were not in favor of this location. There are cars parked across the street and on the street. This is also a tough intersection.
4. Old Dog Park – location is good, but parking is limited, neighbors had an issue with the maintenance and noise years ago. Neighbors also mentioned hill and walking to this location is dangerous. There was talk about fixing the hill leading to this location by the DPW. It is now put on the back burner. Possibility of expanding parking if you cut into land.
5. Haverhill/Chestnut St. Property – determined was too small of an area.

RK – we need to meet up again after site visit by RM, MT and Dog Park Group. Hopefully we can come to a resolution by end of year. Old Dog Park top of list. Discussion ended. Melissa Burns exited the meeting.

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### **Acceptance of Minutes:**

**(SS) Made a motion to accept the minutes of September 10, 2018.**

**(PF) Second the motion.**

**Approved: 7 Opposed: 0**

**Abstained: 0**

**Motion: Passed**

### **New Business:**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Paving Walkways @ IRP & around Rec. Center: MT was notified that paving company was delayed, but should be done this fall. (Cost: \$19,900 + \$37,500=\$57,400). Funds in Capital Plan.
- IRP Environmental Bond Bill - \$500,000 – No Update.
- Disabilities swing (all parks compliance) – MT researched, there is a lot of work that would need to be done to allow for disability swing accessibility. Swings are costly. Would need to update all parks. Kid Spot is handicapped accessible. Once you make a change to park you would need to follow guidelines and make the park Handicapped accessible. Town Planner, Danielle McNight says there are lots of grants out there, may be able to apply for.
- Community Center – No Update. 3/5 year plan.
- Turf Concession/Bathroom – working with IT to allow P&R to use APP to open/close doors.
- Martins Pond/Library Hut – MT – Janet Nicosia is fine with the Library Hut. MB was told that it is a replica of the Flint Memorial Highway. Would like answers to the following questions:
  - Is it waterproof?
  - Do we have a picture of it?
  - How will it be monitored?

**Parks Director: (MT): Passed.**

**Recreation Director (LC): Not present. Passed.**

### **Operations Director (MS):**

- Capital Plan due in October – FY19.
- Turf Carpet was in the 3/5 year plan (2022) estimated repair cost was \$100,000. MT received report on turf carpet. We now need to replace the whole carpet, which has an estimated cost of \$500,000. MT spoke to Hillview. They will discuss and see if there are any funds to donate towards this expense.

### **OTHER BUSINESS:**

**LUC (RM):** - Golf Tournament was yesterday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. RM thanks everyone. LUC will review event going forward.

**CIT (RM):** RM – Everyone is excited about the \$10MM. People asking where these funds are coming from, how we got it.

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**FONRPRC (SS):**

- Officers voted in. No change: SS-President, MS-Treasurer- RM-Director, MB-Clerk.
- Reorganization – Voted and approved to proceed with plan to present to Town Administrator.
  - Disney – ALL Monies will continue to go into Friends of Account.
  - W&F – Auction funds will go into P&R Town Gift Account.
  - BBQ-Gate money will go into IRP Gift Account.
  - Banner-money will go into P&R Turf Gift Account.
- W&F ticket price will be \$45, \$50 at the door.
- Friends of donating \$200 to Hall of Fame for the purchase of a used ice machine. (Hall of Fame will donate \$800, Youth Football - \$200, Youth Lacrosse - \$200, P&R - \$200, \$200 – HS Football)

**Next Meeting: Monday, November 5 2018, 7pm.**

- **Adjournment:**

(PF) made a motion to adjourn meeting at 8:25pm.

(SS) seconds the motion.

**Approved: 7 Opposed: 0**

**Abstained: 0**

**Motion: Passed**