



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

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Park Commission

Don Howes, Chair
Jim Abbruzzese
John Waswill

August 16, 2018 Meeting Minutes 7:00pm Draper Room, Town Hall

Call to Order – Town Hall - 19:03

Attendance

- Park Commission: Don Howes, Jim Abbruzzese
- Public: Tracey Philips

Approval of Minutes: July 19, 2018 – Approved unanimous. John Waswill absent

Correspondence and requests

- Tracey Philips of the FoHH brought several requests for parks use. All were approved.
 - Spooktacular 5k race on Oct 27. Starts/finishes in Town Park. Approved.
 - Haunted Hopedale Halloween exhibit at the Town Park tennis court starting in Sept and running through Halloween.
 - Downtown Winter stroll – Requested use of Adin Balou Park.
 - Hopedale Fairy Walk June 8, 2019. Pond area and Parklands.
- HHS Class of 1968 requested the use of Town Park, the pond area and the Parklands for an “Amazing Race” style event for their class reunion. Approved
- Following up from a previous request from a resident to have fallen branches that are caught in trees that over hang their property – The trees are confirmed to be on town property and the Park Commission has contacted Arbor One for selective pruning. MSDV Approved up to \$1500 for removal and related pruning service.
- The highway Department informed the Park Commission that ground hogs have been found at upper area of Draper Field. They are being trapped and removed so that the area can be mowed and to prevent the puncture of the protective membrane below ground.

Public Comment - Short Items (non-discussion)

None

Review previous action items

- Phillips Field
 - MHYS is addressing their unsecured soccer nets. The High School’s nets will be moved to their approximate locations. Field lining to be done Aug 21 in time for school sports that start Aug 23.
- Town Park - Tennis & Bandstand programs
 - New doors are being installed in the fence on the east side of tennis court 3.

- Neither Mark Espanet nor Katie Rizzo will be returning to run the Park Summer program in 2019 due to college commitments. The Park Commission will need to find new people to run the program and possibly a secretary to help coordinate registration logistics as well help with other Parks administrative tasks. Jim Abbruzzese to talk to the high school about developing an online tennis registration program.
- The large Tulip tree in Town Park needs to be removed due to rot and safety. The approximated cost for removal is \$4,000. MSDV up to \$5,000.
- Park rules, signs and postings, dog policy
 - Discussed adding “no dogs” signs to every entrance to Town Park and at Phillips field. Other dog signs are located at prominent areas of the park, but when dog owners are approached they most commonly say that they did not see the signs.
- Pond weed updates & Water testing
 - The most recent update from SOLitude Lake Management reports that weed remediation is quite good, even with recent rain and higher water level.
 - The waters testing performed by the BoH show the following E.coli measurement (part per million). Up to 235 is considered safe. Testing locations and results are inconsistent and the HPC will ask for further clarification of reasoning for where and where testing is done
 - July 20 at the Bath House – 19, at the culvert between the Bath House and Little Red Shop – 1413, at the dam – 1203. *These numbers are believed to be an anomaly.
 - July 24 at the Bath House - 19, culvert - 12, dam - 117.
 - July 31 at the Bath House – 36, culvert - 67, dam – 8.
 - Aug 8 at the Bath House – 18, culvert - 13, dam - 23, Rustic Bridge -98.
 - HPC has been asked about the possibility of bringing back the swimming program at Hopedale Pond. Dave Guglielmi is inquiring with other towns about how they handle similar programs.
- Pet waste station
 - The Park Commission has received enough donations to purchase 10 pet waste stations. Don Howes is working with the Selectmen and town accountant to set up an account to accept the donations. Volunteers are going to make concrete anchors for setting the stations in the ground.
- Baseball Garage
 - Use of the baseball garage at Town Park has been with HYB.
- Locks at Draper Field
 - The locks used in the storage boxes and trailers will be replaced with locks that are part of the town key system. Keys will be given to HYB.
- Railroad Parklands path
 - Grindings of the asphalt removed from Dutcher Street is being added to the new trail along the railroad tracks on Freedom Street. Grindings may be added to the other Parkland trails.
- Letters of thanks
 - Letters of thanks for the donations of picnic tables placed at the Phillips Field playground have been completed and are to be mailed.
- Spook Trail
 - Discussed earlier in Correspondence and Requests

New Business

- Selectmen's meeting in September
 - Don Howes will present provide a status report of all HPC related items a Selectmen's meeting in September.
- Eagle Scout project

- Quynh St. Germain's project of creating and installing cross country race markers at Draper Field and in the Parklands is progressing. Installation coming soon.
- Phillip's guardrail
 - Reviewed proposals for additional guard rail at the playground and at the entrance. To\O be discussed in further detail at a future meeting with full HPC member attendance.
- Request for use
 - The HPC would like to remind Atria Place to submit use a request form for organized and planned activities. This will help prevent conflicts with other planned activities.
- The Park Commission will take over management of the portable toilets at Draper Field and place them in the paved area near the flag pole.
- Bills & Invoices
 - Ace hardware, electric, SOLitude Lake Management, water, Steve's Tree Service, Koopman Paint

Public Comment - lengthy items

None

Other topics not anticipated in the last 48 hours

- The Highway Department is asking the town for help with park maintenance such as hiring a landscaper to help with fertilization, weed treatment, seeding and aerating or possibly hiring part time help during the summer with existing budgeted salary money.

Adjourn 20:30

MSDV – Motioned, Seconded, Discussed, Voted

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this proceeding, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the ADA Coordinator, Hopedale Town Hall, 78 Hopedale Street, Hopedale, MA 01747, or please call (508) 634-2203 at least 7 days in advance of the schedule meeting.

Don Howes, Charmain _____ Date 10/18/18

John Waswill, Treasurer _____ Date PRESENT

Jim Abbruzzese, Secretary _____ Date 10/18/2018