



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

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Park Commission

Don Howes, Chair

Jim Abbruzzese

John Waswill

February 21, 2019 Meeting Minutes 7:00pm Draper Room, Town Hall

Call to Order – Town Hall - 19:00

Attendance

- Park Commission: Don Howes, John Waswill, Jim Abbruzzese
- Public: None

Approval of Minutes: January 17, 2018

- Approved – MSDV Unanimous

Correspondence and requests

- SOLitude Lake Management sent the annual report of the results weed management at Hopedale Pond. The report will be forwarded to the Conservation Commission.

Public Comment - Short Items (non-discussion)

None

Review previous action items

- Town park tennis registration, bandstand programs
 - The bandstand activities will be run by Ben Tahmoush and the tennis program will be run by Matt Costanza. Park activities will begin on June 17th and end on August 9th. 3-4 Summer employees will be returning from last summer. Ben and Matt will hire to fill the remaining 3-4 open position.
- Draper Field dugouts, dogs
 - Dogs will not be allowed on the playing field areas, though leashed dogs will be allowed in the back area between the fields and Freedom St.
 - Hopedale Youth Baseball has advised against digging holes for new fence posts for the dugouts due to the administrative effort and resulting testing that would need to be performed. Instead it has been recommended that the fence posts be secured by driving posts or specialty supporting structure in to the ground without the need to remove dirt.
- Phillips Field updates, requests by adult softball league, and MHYSA practice
 - Busses are still being parked in the parking lot and a review of new parking locations is ongoing. March 31st is the deadline for the relocation to get the busses out of the way for spring sports. The parking lot will need to be repaired and re-lined, paid by the high school. A bill for portable toilets has submitted to high school. Portable toilets for spring use will be ready for March 31. The electrical service used for the busses will left in place for the new flood light. An invitation to a future Park Commission meeting will be extended to the adult softball ball league to discuss logistics.

- Pond, bathhouse
 - Don Howes is waiting to hear back from BVT about the repair or replacement of the Bath House ramp. It will be replaced by Parks funds if BVT is unable to help. The direction forward will be determined by the March Park Commission meeting.

New Business

- Review and approve year end report
 - Approved – MSDV unanimous
- Review Conservation Committee meeting
 - The Hopedale Youth Baseball request for dugout fences was approved by the Conservation Commission with the agreement that HYB will follow the guidelines provided by Rockwell regarding the removal of dirt. The Activities and Use Limitation (AUL) from Rockwell states that dirt cannot be removed without third party testing and approval by Rockwell, but poles can be driven in to the ground without the need for testing or approval.
- Town Park tree work/finance committee
 - Don Howes is getting proposals for tree maintenance to be submitted as request for the Park Commission fiscal year 2019 budget.
- Town Park drainage
 - There has been flooding between the basketball court and the tennis courts as well as at the playground. The Park Commission and Highway are looking at the possibility of a new drain near the bathrooms. Drainage should be addressed before replacing the play surface at the playground.
- Rustic Bridge repair proposals
 - A charitable organization would like to have the Rustic Bridge repaired. Don Howes is getting proposals for repair and is look at potentially having one of the huts repaired too.

Public Comment - lengthy items

None


Other topics not anticipated in the last 48 hours

- Donor plaques for pet waste stations have been received will go up spoon. The balance of pet waste station fees will be paid from the Park Commission revolving account.
- New sand has bene bought to replace what was washed away at the Town Park playground.
- Various bills were received and discussed.
- The Mendon park facilities use document has been acquired for comparison to the Hopedale park use document with regards to potential improvements.
- Discussed the transfer of knowledge from John Waswill to Down Howes and Jim Abbruzzese regarding how to pay bills. More to be discussed for March/April before John's departure.

Adjourn 17:45

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.

MSDV – Motion, Seconded, Discussed, Voted



Don Howes, Chairman

John Waswill, Treasurer



Jim Abbruzzese, Secretary