



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

78 Hopedale Street - P.O. Box 7
Hopedale, Massachusetts 01747

Tel: 508-634-2203 x 302 Fax: 508-634-2200

Email: parks@hopedale-ma.gov

**Park
Commission**
Don Howes, Chair
Jim Abbruzzese

June 20, 2019 Meeting Minutes 7:00pm Draper Room, Town Hall

Call to Order at 7 PM

Attendance

Park Commission: Don Howes, Jim Abbruzzese

Park Clerk: Mary Arcudi

Public: Steve Guyon, Ben Tamoush, David Sprowl, Thomas Wesley

Welcome our HPC clerk, Mary Arcudi

Approval of Minutes: May 16, 2019 - *MSDV Approved

Correspondence and requests

- Letter from David Guglielmi dated May 31, 2019 with this letter of resignation on the Hopedale Park Commission effective immediately due to personal and professional conflicts.

Jim Abbruzzese made a motion regrettfully to accept David Guglielmi's letter of resignation, seconded by Don Howes and motion passes unanimously.

Need to advertise for a replacement candidate, interview, approve and then nominate to the Board of Selectmen to vote.

- Hoop Crew has requested to use the park the Milford/Hopedale Town Park Summer Basketball League from June 11 through July 25 and it was agreed to continue allowing them to use the courts.
- Kathy Kavanagh would like to continue her summer Sunrise Yoga from July 10 to July 31 and may add days in August if rain dates are needed. It was agreed to continue with this program.
- Blackstone River Corridor is interested in having a walking tour of the parklands for bird watching on September 28, 2019 and it was agreed to allow this walking tour.
- Hopedale Youth Basketball is requesting keys to the shed. Don informed the board that this is typically not allowed by the HPC and the Highway Department since it is town property. Don Howes suggested that they use the gang box behind the shed and he would see if the line lyme machine to make the lines in the dirt can fit into this box. The board will review this at the next meeting to see if this works for the HYB Babe Ruth coaches.
- Jeff Leclair from Fin and Feather Sports would like to use the bath house door when running his program. It was discussed at length that the canoes could damage the doorway and it was suggested that Jeff create unintrusive bumpers so that when bringing in the canoes there is no damage.
- Stephanie Ridolfi, Hopedale Athletic Director informed the HPC that the MIAA has deemed the tennis courts to be illegal for any competitions. The lines are off by 3 plus inches and they need to be resurfaced and repaired. Don Howes did have a verbal quote of \$5000 per court to paint and sealing cost of \$2000 each. The HPC cannot support this cost. Ms. Ridolfi will speak with her administrative team. The HPC will seek formal proposals and need review of MIAA actual requests and upgrades. A discussion was held to see whether this is a school budgetary item. The board will look into whether bids are needed with Steve Sette.

- Karen Crebase, Superintendent of Schools send a letter to the HPC thanking them for working collaboratively with them regarding the issue with the busses and parking. The Phillips Field parking lot needed to be resurfaced after their use at a cost of \$6000 and the school department has contributed \$2,400 towards the project.

Public Comment - Short Items (non-discussion)

None

Review previous action items

Town park tennis registration, bandstand programs - Ben Tamoush informed the board regarding week one of the summer activities and tennis program. Matt Costanza, who is running the tennis program under Ben's direction, created a separate email group to improve communications. Many field trips have been planned and all but one trip has secured bus transportation as of today. He requested additional sand and was informed that the work is in progress. There is a banner now advertising the summer program on the Bandstand.

Movie Nights - Mr. Sprowl requested that the Movie Nights continue this summer on Tennis court #1 starting on June 28th. He is planning on 5 evenings during the summer and he takes care of all lighting and securing the area at the end of the evening. Mr. Sprowl would like to spray the area with a botanical insecticide concentrate from "Essentria" and was informed we check with the Conservation Commission.

Jim Abbruzzese made a motion to approve 5 Movie Nights on the tennis courts, seconded by Don Howes and motion passes unanimously.

Pond weeds - The pond was treated for weeds at the beginning of June by Solitude. Additional treatments will be needed moving forward.

Bath house project - The deck is currently unusable on the pond side. What is needed is to look for a contractor and pay for this out of the maintenance budget after July 1. This would need approval from the Building Inspector and the Conservation Commission.

Rustic Bridge repair proposals - This project is at a standstill as the board needs a structural engineering company along with approval from the Conservation Commission.

Town Park drainage - This has been previously approved and has not moved forward as of yet. Work in progress.

Updates on parklands - 4 picnic tables have been resurrected and are now usable. The Highway Department took down a tree that was on the walking trail that was leaning and needed to be removed, otherwise the trails look good.

Discussion of January review of field needs by intown groups - It was decided that in January there would be a meeting of all parties who use the fields so that everyone is on the same page and is aware of rules and regulations on park usage.

In-town field use reservations, protocol & groups - A reminder was stated that all interested groups need to complete a reservation form in order to use the park in order for bathrooms, fields, etc to be ready for each event and to avoid duplication.

Dogs in parks - This is still an on-going issue and many believe it is only for the playground. The board will continue to monitor and remind residents.

New Business

- Disgruntled resident complaint regarding Parklands - Mr. Steve Guyon, 4 Soward Street explained his concerns regarding the reground asphalt that he feels is being added to the trails throughout the parklands. His concern is injury to runners and wants the HPC to discontinue laying down additional asphalt. It was explained that there are no plans or money in the budget to do so only when needed in erosion areas to patch and reground asphalt. He provided the board with information regarding health hazards in using asphalt which the members will read and review.
- Fairy Walk review - Tracey Phillips, who coordinated this event, did a fabulous job and was attended by close to 2, 500 people. This is the third year and included additional food vendors. Next year they will look at positioning portable bathrooms in other locations and adding rest stop seating.
- Kiosk roof rebuild - The students at Blackstone Valley Tech removed the roof and replaced it with a new and improved roof, better than expected. Recently there was an issue with a fitting that let go on the kiosk that created water everywhere and needs to be fixed. Don Howes is looking into a sign to place on the kiosk designating that this is Hopedale Town Park.
- Files - The HPC files have been organized by David Guglielmi and will be filed in the file cabinet upstairs in the Town Hall.
- Bills & Invoices - It was brought to the board's attention that there are outstanding bills with Ace Hardware that go back to 2017. After a review by the clerk, it was determined that we seem to owe \$341.24 from June 2017 to June 2018, less than what Ace had indicated. The clerk will reach out to their representative and submit to them dates and check numbers for those invoices in question. Once resolved and agreed, Don Howes made a motion to pay the outstanding 2017-18 invoices from the revolving account, seconded by Jim Abbruzzese and motion passes unanimously.
Also due to Ace are bills from July 2018 to May 2019 in the amount of \$296.01 and our current bills for June amount to \$90.08.
Bills moving forward will be reviewed during the month and a filing system will be created in the HPC mail box in the Town Hall to be coordinated by the Clerk.

Public Comment - lengthy items

None

Report of board members - Jim Abbruzzese requested a consideration of a reorganization of the board. Don Howes stated that he spoke with Steve Sette and his recommendation was to wait until the vacant seat on the board is filled. It is hoped that this would happen within the next few months and if not, the subject of reorganization would be reconsidered.

All forms need a signature by the Chairman and it was suggested that an additional member be permitted to sign payroll and invoices. The clerk will forward a memorandum to the town clerk and payroll department which is required in order to make such changes.

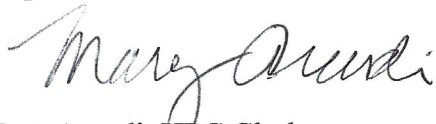
Future meeting conflicts were discussed and tentative dates are August 1 and August 22. Don will check with the town clerk to see if the rooms are available and once confirmed the website meeting dates will be amended.

Other topics not anticipated in the last 48 hours

None

Meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Arcudi, HPC Clerk

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 scheduled meeting.


Don Howes, Chairman
Jim Abbruzzese