



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

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Park Commission

Don Howes, Chair
Jim Abbruzzese
John Waswill

May 17th, 2018 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

- March 16, 2018 - Approved
- April 19, 2018 - Approved

Correspondence and requests

- HHS Girl's Lacrosse requested the use of the Phillips Field for a cookout for an end of the season celebration. Approved.
- FoHH asked to use the tennis courts for a Spook Trail. Approved.
 - This also started a discussion for the need of a larger door at Court 3 and use of the tennis net posts.
- Atria Place asked about the possibility of adding horse shoe pits, a community garden and bocce to Town Park. This is not in the budget for this year but the HPC will entertain donations.

Public Comment - Short Items (non-discussion)

None

Review previous action items

- Phillips Field
 - New grass at top of the field near the entrance is growing well. HPC will ask the Highway Dept for more grass seed. Discussed a credit application required by the granite company the HPC contacted for adding curbing at the new location of the Phillips Field monument.
- Town Park
 - The Summer Tennis Program noon time slot is full and the others filling fast. The Summer Park Program and Tennis Director is hiring replacements for the two tennis instructors who are not returning this summer.
 - The installation of the larger door at the bathroom is complete. The HPC is waiting for the new concrete to cure before officially opening the bathroom building.
- Park rules, signs and postings, dog policy

- Discussed dogs at Town Park and Parklands. The No Dog policy at Town Park was not changed but all agreed to add a sign at Town Park saying leashed dogs are allowed in the Parklands.
- Field use maintenance fees
 - Usage fees to remain the same as in previous years which includes dragging the infields and maintaining field lines in the grass. The infield lining service will not be offered due to lack of resources.
- White Ash tree behind 108 Dutcher Street
 - This tree was taken down by the Tree Warden. Other smaller trees/brambles have been removed for safety.
- Playing fields – Selectman
 - Per a recent Selectmen meeting, Draper Field is now under HPC management.
- Budget meeting/park projects
 - No new capital budget is being submitted, only last year's run rate for expenses is being requested for the new fiscal year.
 - A proposal of \$8,800 Was received for the assessment of the Rustic Bridge. There is no budget for this so the HPC will not move forward with the proposal.
- Drones
 - Discussed the need for a permit and insurance for use of drones in all parks in town. More research is needed so no vote was taken.
- Tennis Registration & Bandstand programs
 - Covered at Town Park agenda item
- Pond weed updates
 - The first payment for this season's weed treatment at Hopedale Pond has been submitted Solitude Lake Management. They recommend raising the level of water to help prevent weed growth. All members agreed to raise the water level for this reason.
- Parklands trees and bridge
 - Repair of the Rustic Bridge was covered in the budget agenda item. There has been lots of winter tree damage and much has been removed. Trails have been smoothed with gravel or reground asphalt. More damaged trees still need removal.
- Request for use discussion
 - Discussed adding signage or pamphlets about contacting the HPC to request use of any town park for organized events.
- Pet waste station
 - There has been much positive feedback regarding the installation of a pet waste station near the Bathhouse entrance to the Parklands. There have been offers for donations to add more. Donations are being discussed in more detail with the potential donors.

New Business

- Summer Basketball in town park
 - The Hoop Crew, a Milford run youth basketball organization that serves the surrounding towns, requested use of the Town Park basketball court for their summer league. Hopedale enters a team in the league and all the Hopedale team's games will be at the park. The summer league starts in the second week of June. Request approved.
 - Looking at the potential for installing artificial turf in bench areas to prevent erosion and mud.
- Fairy Walk
 - The Fairy Walk scheduled rain or shine on May 19th, though rain is in the forecast.
- Bills & Invoices
 - Deferred

Public Comment - lengthy items

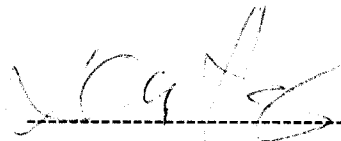
None

Other topics not anticipated in the last 48 hours

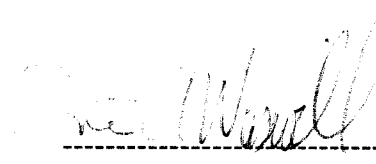
None

Adjourn 19:55

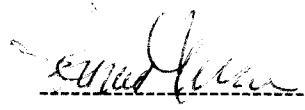
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Don Howes, Chairman 7/19/18
Date



John Waswill, Treasurer 19 JUL 2018
Date



Jim Abbruzzese, Secretary 7/19/2018
Date

