



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

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Park Commission
Don Howes (Chair)
Rob Jackson
John Waswill

Park Commission Meeting Minutes 19 May, 2016

Meeting called to order by Chairman Don Howes at 19:00 at Town Hall

Present: Rob Jackson, Don Howes, John Waswill, Dave Guglielmi, Sheila Embree, Chris McCall

Official Welcome of the New Member – Reorganization Results

- Public welcome to John Waswill
- Recap of positions elected – Don Howes (Chairman), John Waswill (Treasurer), Rob Jackson (Secretary)

Rework of the Routes 16 and 140 intersection

- There is a plan is to redo the intersection at Milford Hospital, which may require alterations to the park at the Adin St. triangle. No dates/drawings/details have been discussed at this time, just making people aware that the discussions are happening. Highway department has just started to be involved.

Board of Health Update regarding Smoking

- Board of Health regulations require prohibition of smoking of traditional and e-cigarettes in parks, athletic fields, beaches, etc. New signs will be posted in a couple of locations identifying the new rules.

Irrigation Systems

- Still working to follow up with New England irrigation. Work has already been approved, just need to get it done.

Key Management System Update/Disbursement/Requests

- Hopedale Youth Baseball Association requesting a key to the Hopedale Softball storage shed at Phillips Field. Access would be for tools required to maintain the new Baseball Mound that HYBA helped fund, and access was provided in previous years. Don noted that no other non-town group has keys to any storage facility in town. The school also has their own storage containers in the far field which were purchased for their use. The school baseball coach and athletic director are both not in favor of providing HYBA with a key.
 - o There is a large lock box behind the main dugout which can be used as an alternative. The box is now behind the shed, and a long rake and tamper will fit in this box.
 - o Unknown if a tamper is available, but if not, one must be purchased
 - o **Tarps must be acquired for helping to maintain the ball fields. This must be marked for a future agenda item.** There will be a challenge working with people to carefully remove and replace the tarps, including for ‘pick-up’ activities. A nice weighted tarp would work well but they aren’t cheap and will need to be replaced periodically. Ultimately the goal is to reduce the need for speedy dry.

- Some diverted discussion about maintenance of the baselines, specifically how the baselines should be raked in order to maintain the dirt in the center of the baseline. This work, as well as work for the mount and home plate needs to be done after every game.
- Other updates to the key system, additional keys are being requested for the school. Specifically a key for each coach and one for maintenance worker. Keys for the summer staff have been distributed.

Insurance Requirements for Events

- John found that for general public, if people just want to use the Park property, it shouldn't need insurance. There was some discussion of where to draw the line.
- Don to have a discussion with Steve Sette regarding the best way to draw the line.

Field Usage Requests

- Request to say wedding vows at the bridge, requiring vehicle access. Don can open the gate for access, and gate will be closed but not locked during the services. Vehicle will be parked at the triangle to block other vehicles from going down the road, but not in a way to block emergency vehicles. Request to have them make some signs with poster material, notifying people that a ceremony is in process and there may be some vehicle traffic. Don will follow up verbally and Rob will response to electronic request.
- John Smith Sports has requested 2 (potentially 3) days for Phillips Field soccer fields for recruitment and tryouts. Park Commission is OK with this, pending the Lacrosse schedule. The fee for usage will be \$50 per day. John to identify Lacrosse needs and Rob to respond to John Smith's request.

Rustic Bridge

- Per discussion, Rich Breeze has been assigned the job and it is back on his calendar. We are still working to identify the date for the work to be done.

Updates from Town Meeting

- We have approval to move forward for the worker between park commission and highway department. We are still working out the details on the agreement, but happy we can move forward.
- Approved for up to \$50,000 for the weed treatment of the pond. This will be available for work done to the pond in the new fiscal year, which means the grant money from NEIWPC is required to start treatments in June. We can't award the deal unless the money is available. Final report is due May 31, 2016. Rob to track this down and ensure everything NEIWPC needs to provide the grant funds is submitted.
- Pond - approved for up to 50k for weed treatment.

Other topics not anticipated in last 48 hours

- Dana Wilson from Stump Grinding donating the use of his bucket truck to change the lights at town park.
- Also thanking Bonnie Combs from the Blackstone Valley Heritage Corridor for all of her repeated work with cleaning up the pond and parklands.

Motion to adjourn 19:57 – MSDV Unanimous

Hopedale Parks Commission
*Moved, Seconded, Discussed and Voted ** Roll Call Vote

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.
