



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
David Sprowl
Michael Ledone
Chairman Michael
Reynolds

Hopedale Park Commission
April 20, 2023
Meeting Minutes
7:00 pm Remote Meeting via Zoom

Attendance

Park Commission: Mike Reynolds, Mike Ledone, David Sprowl

Clerk: Kristen Ledone

Guests:

Mike Reynolds called meeting to order at 7:07pm

Mike Ledone made a motion to approve minutes from March 16, 2023. David Sprowl seconded. All were in favor.

Announcements, correspondences and requests

- Summer Program update – Hudson Terrando has expressed interest in running the program this summer. Mike Reynolds has explained to Hudson that the board cannot make a definitive decision until the decision on the Override has been made. If Override fails, there will not be a budget to run the summer program. Mike Reynolds will send a message to all the applicants to explain the situation.
- Question from Tracey Habel regarding holding a wedding ceremony/picture on Park's property. Mike Reynolds stated he had no issue with taking individual events into consideration, as long as the applicant takes into consideration parking, size, police detail if needed, and no alcoholic beverages. David Sprowl said if it is not disruptive.
- Request from Tony Cordani for soccer clinic at Phillips Field. There are no issues from the Board's perspective if there were no conflicts. David Sprowl made a motion to accept, Mike Ledone seconded, all were in favor.
- Correspondence from Tracey Phillips, she has close to \$400 in donations from the Fairy Walk. She is looking for potential ideas to add to the Parklands. Mike Ledone thinks that more importantly he would like to see the entrance to the Parklands improved. Mike Reynolds suggested an additional bench. Another potential option would be the picnic tables throughout the Parklands could be improved. Mike Reynolds will reach out to Chris Nadeau with suggestions. Mike Ledone also suggested bark mulch at the playground at Phillips Field. Mike Reynolds said it was probably something the Board should get a quote for and just do.
- The Park Commission was invited to the grand re-opening of the Hopedale Dunkin'. The Board wishes them the best in their future.

Public Comment - Short Items (non-discussion)

- None

Review previous action items

- Town Warrant correspondence from Jeff Nutting. Mike Ledone disagrees with Jeff's suggestion of moving the Town Park Revitalization to next year. He stated that there will never be a "good time" to

move this project to a vote. David Sprowl agreed that there is never a good time, there are several other items going up to the warrant and Parks is always at the bottom of the list. Dave agrees with Mike Ledone, he would like to see the Town Park project added to the warrant and let the people vote. Mike Reynolds will get in touch with Jeff and let him know that the Parks Commission would like to add the Town Park project to the warrant. Mike Reynolds also agrees that the town finances won't be changing soon. Mike Reynolds took a motion to execute putting an article on the Town Warrant for the annual Town Meeting in May 2023 for the execution of the Town Park revitalization project, so moved by Mike Ledone, seconded by David Sprowl. All were in favor.

- Draper Field update. Based on Hopedale Youth Baseball's schedule, work cannot begin at Draper as they are leveraging all fields through the spring and into the summer. Mike Reynolds would like to walk through the field with Stephanie Ridolfi to address the major problem areas, and explained to her that the work on the field could not begin because of Baseball's schedule. Mike Ledone proposed moving field hockey to Phillips Field this fall to make necessary improvements to Draper without displacing field hockey. Mike Reynolds will get in touch with Stephanie and let her know the current situation.

New Business

- Jeff from Fin and Feather submitted their application for their summer program. July 10-Aug 22, 11th annual summer clinic leveraging the Bathhouse and pond area, similar to what they have done in the past. Jeff will be sending a check for his usage fees from last summer and will continue the same usage fee schedule this summer. Mike Ledone made a motion to approve the usage request, David Sprowl seconded. All were in favor.

Bills and Invoices

- Mike R had taken care of all bills.

Public Comment - lengthy items

- None

Report of board members

- Mike Reynolds wanted to update the Board on the CPA. They must go through the State CPC training. He learned that based on MA general law, the funds can only be allocated by being presented by the CPA as a Town Warrant and voted at Annual Town meeting only. Mike Reynolds said he will be going through a 2-hour training within the next couple of weeks and that there is about \$170,000 in the account and the number will be growing.
- Hopedale Youth Baseball approached Mike Reynolds looking to improve the fencing down at Draper Field. He walked through and did a site walk with CDM Smith and Brett Bouvier and showed CDM Smith where the improvements were needed. The fence company will rent a machine and drive posts into the ground and put up a new fence and improve additional fencing. Work will be complete within a few days.
- Mike Reynolds met with Tighe and Bond at the Town Park to evaluate the rock walls. The rock walls are significantly worse than previously thought. One quote from Tighe and Bond will be to repair the area both the Northrop St and the Freedom St side. Tighe and Bond's recommendation is that the walls should be completely removed and rebuilt. Mike Reynolds should have a quote within a week and will forward to Jeff Nutting for the list of Capital Improvements. Tighe and Bond said that the Freedom St side is ready to completely collapse, which would collapse the sidewalk, railing and significant work required to the road. The trees will have to also be removed once work starts.

Other topics not anticipated in the last 48 hours

David Sprowl made a motion to adjourn the April 20, 2023 meeting. Mike L seconded. All were in favor.