



TOWN OF HOPEDALE

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**Park
Commission**
Don Howes, Chair
Michael Ledone
David Sprowl

Hopedale Park Commission January 21, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes 7:00 pm Remote Meeting via Zoom

Call to Order at 7:05 pm

Attendance

Park Commission: Don Howes, Michael Ledone, David Sprowl

Park Clerk: Mary Arcudi

Administrative Assistant: Lindsay Mercier

It was moved by David Sprowl, seconded by Michael Ledone to approve the regular meeting minutes of November 19, 2020. All were in favor.

Announcements, correspondences and requests

The Town Clerk has informed all boards that each municipal employee needs to complete the Conflict of Interest training by April 9, 2021. The information has been sent to the Park Commission membership.

Public Comment - Short Items (non-discussion)

None

Review previous action items

- Don Howes will review the joint letter with the Conservation Commission regarding the Parklands.
- The bath house project will continue to be on hold. The steps that were deteriorating have been removed and when funds allow, this project will be reviewed at that time.

New Business

- The Annual Report for 2019-2020 was prepared and shared with the board. Other than one edit, the board approved the annual report.
- A new donated memorial bench has been requested by the Greene family proposed to be constructed near the Hopedale Pond. This bench will be in memory of his sister, Ellen and the plaque would read "In loving memory of Ellen Greene from family and friends". This bench will be located near the bathhouse and placed on a large concrete pad which the family has also agreed to pay for.

Since the contractor will be out to pour this concrete pad, Don Howes suggested that we pour an additional pad in anticipation of an additional donation or one the Park Commission will appropriate for. David Sprowl made a motion to approve the donation of a memorial bench for the Greene family, seconded by Michael Ledone which passed unanimously in favor. David Sprowl made an additional motion to approve installing an additional concrete pad for a future bench at a cost of no more than \$500 which would be appropriated from the revolving account. Seconded by Michael Ledone and motion passed unanimously in favor.

- Don Howes was approached by a former resident who is interested in donating funds to the Hopedale Park Commission. This would be an anonymous donation that would be put towards the safety deficiencies on the play structure located at Town Park. David Sprowl made a motion to accept this generous donation solely for the purpose of repairing the play structure at the Town Park, seconded by Michael Ledone. Motion unanimously passed in favor. Details on this donation will be brought forward at the next meeting once the donation has been received. Michael Ledone will volunteer to assist with the installation and will recruit 5-8 other volunteers as well.
- Recommendations from the Board regarding capital projects - The board discussed the warrants that were pulled from the Special Town Meeting last year which included restoration of trees at the playground and the tennis courts. These project requests will be sent to the Town Administrator for consideration along with the Finance Committee. Also discussed was improvements to the playground and possible sandbox and sand instead of mulch in the playground area.
A work list was also discussed that included possibly paving the path near the Bath House since the sod is in disrepair and muddy. Don Howes will talk with the Highway Department to see if they can pave this when doing other paving projects in town. David Sprowl brought up the parking lot previously reviewed for the Dutcher Street entrance to the Parklands. Don Howes will work with the Conservation Commission to see if this is something that can be moved forward. This would alleviate parking on the street in this area.

Bills and Invoices

Chase/Harris Portable Toilets just sent the HPC invoices that are dated in June of 2020, which is last year's fiscal budget. Therefore, the invoices need to be paid from the Revolving Account. David Sprowl made a motion to approve paying \$760 to Chase/Harris from the revolving account, seconded by Michael Ledone. Motion passes unanimously in favor.

The board will be working on the FY22 budget to present to the finance committee.

Public Comment - lengthy items

None

Report of board members

Don Howes informed the board that the kiosk at Town Park was accidentally damaged and needs repair. Randy Carbo has again stepped up and volunteered to assist in repairing this kiosk along with suggesting a new kiosk be built at the Dutcher Street entrance to the Parklands. The HPC will purchase the wood and the labor will be generously donated by Mr. Carbo for both.

Good news for another young man reaching the status of Eagle Scout, Rohit Kaushik after successfully completing the Ice Rescue Ladder Project. Congratulations Rohit.

Motion to adjourn was made by David Sprowl, seconded by Michael Ledone at 7:48 pm.