

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

January 21, 2015

3:30 p.m.

Unity Park Field House

56 1st Street

Turners Falls, MA 01376

Present: Dennis Grader, Chairperson, Linda Ackerman (3:40pm), Vice Chairperson, Barbara Kuklweicz, Secretary, Jon Dobosz, Director of Parks & Recreation, Jennifer Peterson, Clerk/Bookkeeper

Meeting Being Taped

Agenda:

1. Meeting Called to Order: 3:35 p.m.

2. Approval of November 19, 2014 Minutes: Barbara Kuklweicz makes the motion of accepting minutes; seconded by Dennis Grader.

3. Rutter's Park Update

On December 22, 2014, a public hearing was held for the Community Development Block Grant Program. Jon provided the commission with information relative to Rutter's Park and this grant. The FY 15' Community Development application includes funding (approximately \$60,000) for a master plan for Rutter's Park. The application has not been submitted yet, as we are still working on some of the questions. This process should be completed within the next few weeks.

4. Skate Park Project

Jon recently met with Frank Abbondanzio, Walter Ramsey, Town Planner, and members of the Skate Park Committee to update everyone about the workshop Jon and Walter attended in December. This was put on by the Division of Conservation Services. At the workshop, the process was explained and money will not be released until July 1, 2015. Therefore, ground breaking could not happen before this date. The bidding process could begin, but any type of money that needs to be spent before July 1 would have to come out of the Skate Park Gift Account. The project deadline in June 1, 2016. Jon does not feel this deadline will be an issue. The PARC Grant project agreement and state contract are due by January 31, 2015. All members of the commission signed the PARC contract.

5. FY 16' Operating & Capital Budgets

The department had submitted a capital improvements article for wood chip fiber playground surfacing, specifically for Unity Park, in the amount of \$3,000. Last week the Finance Committee recommended that the money be added to our Operating Budget because this seems as though it will be a yearly expense. Jon agreed with this, but added it may not always be specifically for Unity Park; as our other parks may need this on a regular basis as well. This would increase our FY 16' operating budget to \$116,179. He also mentioned that we are obligated to keep Unity Park maintained to a certain standard due to the Community Development Block Grant we received for the recent updates.

Motion: Barb Kuklweicz makes a motion to accept the \$3000 and to accept the FY 16 Operating and Capital budgets. Linda Ackerman seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0

6. Fall Programs Profit & Loss Statements

The soccer program went well this fall; 29 participants in our Squirrt Soccer, and two Junior 3 & 4 grade travel teams. Fall tennis was also available. He discussed the potential change to our Fall Day and scarecrow stuffing event, possibly holding the scarecrow stuffing earlier in October. Jon has spoken to Mike Nelson in regard to the pumpkin carving for the Pumpkinfest and thought maybe our department could run

the carving during the event. There was further discussion about these possible changes.

Motion: Barbara Kuklweicz makes the motion to accept the Fall Programs Profit and Loss statements. Linda Ackerman seconded the motion.

Vote: 3-0

7. Director's Report

There were no questions on Jon's Meeting/Event log.

8. Other Business

The Open Meeting Law signature page and Conflict Of Interest Law test can be handed in to Jon.

9. Adjournment: 4:13pm

