

**PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**

**Tuesday, March 28, 2017**

**3:30pm**

**Unity Park Fieldhouse**

**56 First Street**

**Turners Falls, MA 01376**

**Present:** Dennis Grader, Chairperson, Barbara Kuklewicz, Vice Chairperson, Albert Cummings, Secretary, Jon Dobosz, Director of Parks & Recreation, Jennifer Peterson, Clerk/Bookkeeper

**Guests:** Jennifer Audley, The Partnership (3:36 p.m.)

**Meeting Being Taped**

**1. 3:30pm Meeting Called to Order**

**2. 3:31pm Approval of March 28, 2017 Minutes:** Barbara Kuklewicz makes the motion of approving minutes; seconded by Albert Cummings.

**3. 3:32pm Lake Pleasant Parks**

●**Rutter's Park Project:** There was no new information other than the application for the Community Development Block Grant for design was submitted at the beginning of March.

●**Norma's Park Update:** There was no new information. Jon has been unable to communicate with Eversource.

**4. 3:33pm Summer Programs Update**

●**Summer Playground:** In the next few days Jon will be submitted the Summer Camp application to the Board Health for the licensing of the camp. There will be some added expenses due to these regulations; a licensed nurse will be necessary as a consultant to sign off on children's immunization forms and physical examination forms. All staff and registered children will need to submit these forms. Registration for summer camp begins on Monday, April 3. We are currently searching for a Summer Camp Director.

●**Skate Park:** Jon is working with Mike George, owner of the Skate Shop, on developing some skate clinics this summer.

●**Spring Tennis:** We are in the process of hiring a new tennis instructor.

●**Adult Lap Swim:** Someone has come forward to help subsidize an adult lap swim program.

**5. 3:36pm Montague Center Park Improvements**

Jon would like to start the process of improvements for this park. He is unsure at this time if improvements will be done "in-house" or put out an invitation to the Conway School of Design to see if they are interested in assisting us in the Master Plan project.

**Motion:** Barbara Kuklewicz makes a motion to move forward with the Montague Center Park Improvements with the possible help of the Conway School of Design; seconded by Albert Cummings.

**Vote:** 3-0

**6. 3:40pm Development of a Concussion Policy**

Many departments across the state are putting together concussion policies. With our new licensing as a Summer Day Camp, all staff must complete the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (C.D.C.) Heads Up Program on line class. Jon will begin to gather information and see what other departments are doing in respect to concussion policies. All of our coaches will be required to take this on-line; it is a no cost program.

**Motion:** Albert Cummings makes a motion to adopt a Concussion Policy; seconded by Barbara Kuklewicz

**Vote:** 3-0

**7. 3:42pm Montague Reporter Fundraising Proposal**

Don Clegg from the Montague Reporter contacted Jon proposing a fundraising idea for the paper and our department. He wants to sell coffee and baked goods on Saturday mornings during the tee ball season at Unity Park. He would be willing to give us some portion of the money raised. Barbara questioned if they need to be Serve Safe for this and Jon answered that it is not necessary for this type of bake sale.

**Motion:** Barbara Kuklewicz makes the proposal of pursuing this fundraiser with the Montague Reporter; seconded by Albert Cummings.

**Vote:** 3-0

**8. 3:45pm Unity Skatepark**

Jon met with the Skatepark Committee last week and discussed installing a concrete pad where the bench is located. This would allow for that area to be handicap accessible. The Skatepark's Gift Account has a balance of \$3260. Brian Dolan, member of the Skatepark Committee, will be coordinating with local vendors and contractors for help with this concrete pad. Another issue the Committee and Jon discussed was the difficulty with the landscape of the main façade; planting junipers was one idea but nothing has been decided at this point. They don't want peat stone or woodchips in this area because of the proximity to the skatepark and bowl. Jon is hoping to hear back from the Franklin County Technical School landscaping department for help on this project. Programming and events for the skatepark was discussed; possibly have some "Night Skates" once or twice a summer. The Board of Selectman would have to approve this program. Another idea was a musical fundraising event. The Committee is considering developing a "Friends of the Unity Skatepark," Jon needs to look into the legal aspect of such a group as our department would need to be involved.

**Motion:** Albert Cummings makes a motion to pursue the idea of having "Night Skates" at the Skatepark during the summer season; seconded by Barbara Kuklewicz.

**Vote:** 3-0

**9. 4:04pm Directors Report**

There were no questions.

**10. 4:04pm Other Business**

There were no other topics.

**Adjournment: 4:05pm**

**Vote:** 3-0

X \_\_\_\_\_  
Albert Cummings, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

or

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Name & Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Print

Date: \_\_\_\_\_