

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 25, 2019

3:30 pm

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

Guests: Anabel Levine member of the Great Falls Apple Corps

Meeting Being Taped

1. 3:33pm Meeting Called to Order

2. 3:37pm Great Falls Apple Corps Memorandum of Understanding with Great Falls Apple Corps regarding Unity Park Community Garden

Despite the group's inner turmoil, Jon would like to move forward on the memorandum of understanding with the Great Falls Apple Corps. They are independent of the department and these issues shouldn't stop us from having this agreement. There has been discussion about the group meeting with a mediator, and our department will be involved where necessary.

Motion: Albert Cummings makes a motion to accept the understanding with the corrections made at the March 21, 2019 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting; seconded by Barbara Kuklewicz.

Approved: 3-0.

3. 3:40pm Rutter's Park Improvement Project Update

Phase I of Rutter's Park construction will begin next week with tree removal. Aqua Turf Irrigation LLC, from Orange, CT, will be the general contractors for this project with various sub contractors for electrical, certified play structure installation, surveying, tree removal and pavilion installation. M.E. O'Brien & Sons will be our playground and amenities supplier. Bruce Hunter, Franklin County Housing & Redevelopment Authority, will be on site daily. In the next 4-6 weeks they will begin to mobilize to the site putting in fencing, stripping the top soil, and site prep. In June installation of the playground equipment will begin, and anticipating a completion date around the end of July. The project cannot be officially opened until everything is complete, including plantings.

Motion: Albert Cummings makes a motion to take a 5:00 minute break; seconded by Barbara Kuklewicz.

Approved: 3-0

4. 3:52pm Montague Center Park Improvement Project Update

A public meeting will be held Wednesday, May 1, 7:00 p.m. at the Montague Public Safety Building to discuss the master plan for Montague Center Park. Jon and project committee met with the students from the Conway School of Landscape Design last week. After the public meeting another date will be set with the students, Jon and committee to discuss the needs of the community.

5. 3:58pm Hillcrest Before School Program

Our department will not be facilitating the Hillcrest Before School Program due to staff size limitations.

6. 3:59pm Winter Programs Profit/Loss Statements

Open Swim profit/loss statement and attendance records were not available for this meeting.

●**Sawmill 10k Race** made a nice profit this year despite there being around 20 less runners. We did have Velocity Results time our race this year, and Jon was very happy with their results.

●**Youth Basketball** had a 3 & 4 grade travel team, k/1 grade, and a 2nd grade program this year. This program is very expensive to run because of the cost of uniforms, officials, gym and gym attendant costs.

●**Blue Fish Swim Team** suffered a lost of \$106.83. Even with over 40 swimmers registered, its an expensive program to run due to pool costs and two coaches salaries.

●**American Red Cross Babysitting Course** is a small program that usually fills to a maximum of 12 students.

Motion: Barbara Kuklewicz makes the motion to accept the Winter Profit/Loss Statements; seconded by Albert Cummings.

Approved: 3-0

7. 4:15pm Parks & Recreation Director Business

●**Summer Camp Director Search:** Amber Richardson has been hired to be the new Camp Director. She is currently a para profession at Turners Falls High School working as a behavioral interventionist. Jon is confident she will be strong addition to our program.

●**Building Bridges Mural Timeline:** Elyssa Serrilli is leading this project and anticipating a completion date in June.

8. 4:20pm Adjournment

Motion: Made by Albert Cummings, seconded by Barbara Kuklewicz

Approved: 3-0

X _____
Albert Cummings, Secretary Date

Or

Signature

Name & Title: _____

Print: _____

Date: _____