



RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

May 3, 2022

7:00 PM

Remote Zoom Meeting

7:00 PM Stephen Trimble opened the meeting.

Present: Christopher Hardy, Clerk; Hema Santhanakrishnan, Commissioner; Joe Will, Commissioner; Steve Trimble, Chair; David Martin, Select Board; Melissa Rier, Recreation Director; Jeff Bergart, Resident; Katie Neville; Acton-Boxborough United Way.

Absent: Nancy Corcoran, Commissioner.

I. Regular Business

1. Review of meeting minutes from April: April Minutes as amended were accepted unanimously, 4-0.
2. Resident's Concerns:
 - a. Melissa explained that there have been many complaints about the cricket leagues leaving trash at the School Street Fields. She has communicated to the leagues that if they do not clean up after using the fields, Recreation will be forced to revoke their permit.
3. Born Learning Trail presented by United Way:
 - a. Katie Neville presented the Born Learning Trail proposal for NARA from United Way. Joe commented that it would be desirable to have the signs facing parallel, so participants can access the program from any direction. The Commissioners also commented suggested posting the first sign (the entrance sign), at multiple entrances (main entrance, Rail Trail entrance, Miracle Field entrance and possibly the amphitheater entrance) but keeping the rest of the signs on the main NARA trail. Melissa asked who is responsible for maintenance of the signs; Katie replied that Recreation would find any issues and then report to United Way. The organizations would work together on upkeep. The total cost of installation is \$1,500, including all signs and painting on the asphalt. The Commissioners viewed the project quite favorably.
4. Select Board Update:
 - a. CPA requests will be presented at Town Meeting for approval.
5. Reports:
 - a) *Fields and Facilities*
 - a. *Sports fields are rented for all the various sports leagues around Town. Concord Tree and Landscaping is under contract for NARA Park, Veterans*

Field and MacPherson Field. The Picnic Pavilion is booked up to September. Natural Resources maintains Morrison Farm. Melissa will talk to the NR crew about taking down the tent frame at Morrison.

b) Rail Trails

- a. DPW is in charge of Rail Trail maintenances.*
- b. Vandalism to a BFRT sign at NARA was taken care of by DPW.*

c) Events

- a. Pirate Party was the first official event of the season. This year the event was combined with Recreation's April School Vacation Week program. It was decided that this format would not be advisable in the future, unless parental supervision is present during the planned activities.*

d) Senior Park / Dog Park

- a. The Dog Park Committee received a \$25,000 design grant from the Stanton Foundation.*

e) Community Preservation Committee

- *CPA Projects*
 - *NARA Sports Pavilion*
 - *Close to being complete. Internet access has been installed at the NARA Amphitheater for Wi-Fi access at the new buildings.*
 - *Gardner Playground Renovation*
 - *A permitting issue delayed the start of excavation. Playground equipment was delivered today. Site work should be starting this week.*
 - *Elm Street Court Reconstruction*
 - *Recreation received \$165,000 for reconstructing the courts. Melissa found a company that uses a rubber tile approach. The proposal with this innovative material is \$96,000. Recreation will need to decide which approach is best to reconstruct the courts.*

II. New/Special Business

6. Open Space and Recreation Plan

- a. The public survey is complete. Steve worked on compiling data from the survey. Melissa reported that this project is on hold while she opens NARA Park and Camp for the season.

7. Human Services Committee - Need a Recreation Commissioner

- a. Deferred to next meeting.

8. NARA Park Opening

- a. Melissa is getting ready for opening day on May 28th by hiring staff, ordering supplies and cleaning the Park.

9. Jones Field – Installation of the patio and volleyball courts excavation will be done by Michael Keane.

III. Consent Items

9. N/A

Meeting ended at 8:15pm with motion made by Joe, seconded by Hema and passed unanimously, 4-0.

Upcoming Recreation Commission Meetings

Date	Time	Location
June 7, 2022	7:00 PM	TBD
<i>No July Meeting</i>		
August 2, 2022	7:00 PM	TBD
September 6, 2022	7:00 PM	TBD