

**Minutes
Alton Parks and Recreation Commission
April 13, 2022
6:00pm, Pearson Road Community Center**

Members Present: John Markland, Kristin Thomas, Megan Stanley

Staff Present: Kellie Troendle-Parks and Recreation Director

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:06pm by Vice Chairwoman, K. Thomas.

Approval of Agenda

J. Markland made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented, motion was seconded by K. Thomas and passed.

Approval of Minutes 12/15/21

The Minutes were not able to be approved due to two members in attendance not being present at the December 15, 2021 meeting.

Public Input (limited to 3 minutes per person- agenda items only)

There was no public input.

Old Business

AYL Update- K. Troendle reported the AYL sent a letter of request asking for approval to place removable, adhesive signs on the back of the dug outs during the AYL season which would be April 1-June 28, 2022. The Commission discussed it would be the responsibility of the AYL to remove the adhesive signs after the baseball season, to maintain the signs if they are damaged or need repair, and to assume the risk of placing the signs on Town owned property in the event of vandalism. K. Thomas made a motion to approved the request of the AYL to place removable adhesive signs on the back of the dugouts for the duration of the AYL 2022 Spring Baseball Season, motion was seconded by J. Markland and passed. The Commission also discussed the request for the AYL to explore using removable adhesive stickers that could be placed on the back of the painted bricks of the dugouts, and removed at the end of the season in future seasons- 2023 and years after. The Commission stated they would like to see how this season goes with the removable, adhesive signs before approving the stickers. K. Troendle noted that the AYL has new leadership with Patrick Marcotte as the president and Nick Moulton as the field maintenance coordinator. The AYL has over 130 players this season and field day is scheduled for Saturday, April 16, 2022.

New Business

Friends of Alton Parks and Recreation- The Commission discussed hosting a meeting to discuss the possibility of forming a Friends of Parks and Recreation group, and advertising the meeting and inviting organizations/parents/families to attend. Also included in the meeting could be discussion on the interest in a Dog Park, Splash Pad and Playground, and find leadership for committees to research the recreational options. The Friends group would need to be established as a charitable organization, set up By-Laws, have a Board of Directors, have a mission, goals, objectives and a purpose. The Friends group would assist in finding funding sources such as grants, donations and fund raising opportunities.

Splash Pad- K. Troendle presented Playground and Splash Pad designs and equipment catalogs for review. New England Recreation Group was contacted about the requirements for space in providing a community park Splash Pad, and stated the following information would be needed for planning purposes: space/dimensions of the area; access to on site utilities (electric, water, etc.); target budget; Splash Pad component/design and water preferences (run-off or recirculation); scope of work that the Town can provide. The Commission discussed forming a committee/focus group to look into the possibility of installing a Splash Pad in Alton.

Recreation Revolving Fund Request- K. Troendle requested the following expenses be paid from the Recreation Revolving Fund: \$115.99 for Pickleball- PPE and cleaning supplies; painters tape; sponge roller; replacement sponge roller; keys for storage box; \$6,399 for Administrative Assistance salary- 7 hours per week for 52 weeks at \$17.58 per hour for Old Home Week Craft Fair, 5K Road Race, Summer Camp, and 2022 recreational planning and programming. The Recreation Revolving Fund March balance was \$39,062. K. Thomas made a motion to approve the request for expenditures totaling \$6,551.17, motion was seconded by J. Markland and passed.

Upcoming Programs/Special Events- The Department is sponsoring the following events: Flashlight Egg Hunt; Zoom Weight Training Classes; Pickleball; 5K Race; Summer Concert Series; Old Home Week Craft Fair; Summer Camps; Pre-School Programs; Town Wide Yard Sale; Kayak Trips; Sunset Yoga Hikes; Yoga Sculpt Class; Beach Bonfire and Singalong and more things to come. The Commission provided feedback and suggested programs for middle school youth like kayak paddles; pickup kickball games and afterschool games at Jones Field.

Other-

Dog Park- M. Stanley discussed the concern with dog waste at Jones Field, and the need to provide a place for dogs to play. The Commission discussed the components of providing a Dog Park including location, maintenance, fenced in space, clean up, volunteer committee to lead the development of the facility, rules for use, providing obstacles/ramps/picnic table, and wooded and green space. The Commission noted this is a good topic to add for the Friends of Recreation meeting to see if there is interest, and form committees to lead the recreational projects. The Commission discussed sponsoring a meeting on Wednesday, June 22, 2022 and inviting the public to share their thoughts on the types of recreational areas they want to see in the Town.

Public Input II (limited to 5 minutes per person on any Governmental/Town Business)

There was no public input.

Adjournment

K. Thomas made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:05pm; motion was seconded by J. Markland and passed. The next meeting is scheduled for June 22, 2022 at 6:00pm at the Pearson Road Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kellie Troendle, Certified Park and Recreation Professional
Parks and Recreation Director*

APPROVED 6.22.22