

**Minutes
Alton Parks and Recreation Commission
June 24, 2021
6:00pm, Pearson Road Community Center**

PLEASE NOTE- Due to the COVID Pandemic, the Alton Parks and Recreation Commission was not able to meet following the February 11, 2020 meeting until June 2021. There were no meetings held from February 11, 2020-May 2021.

Members Present: Elizabeth Shelton, Kristin Thomas, Megan Stanley

Alternate Member Present: Ken Roberts

Public Present: John Markland

Staff Present: Kellie Troendle-Parks and Recreation Director

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Chairwoman, E. Shelton. K. Troendle announced that Everett Clark submitted his resignation from the Commission due to moving out of state. Ken Roberts was appointed to sit in as a full member of the meeting for Everett Clark's position.

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

K. Thomas made a motion to approve the Minutes of February 11, 2020 as presented, motion was seconded by K. Roberts and passed.

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

L. Shelton complimented the Parks and Recreation staff on the programs offered during the pandemic, and also the consistent communication to the residents through the newspaper on the Parks and Recreation Department activities, facilities and programs offered.

Old Business

Request for installation of dedication plaque at Jones Field- K. Troendle reported that the request from Nick Moulton to install a 14"x10" dedication plaque (engraved bronze or aluminum) and a rust free cast or extruded aluminum post (3"x36") with the inscription, "Honors and tributes to the vision and efforts of Jack B. Baggley and Jeffrey A. Moulton whose love for baseball and dedication to youth sports helped create this little field of dreams."; and for the plaque/post to be placed near the entrance to the field adjacent to the concession stand was brought to the Board of Selectmen at their May 12, 2020 meeting. K. Troendle stated the Board of Selectmen addressed the following items: the location of the plaque would need to be confirmed; also the Board would like to see photos of the

plaque; the proposed location; and the post. The Board also stated concern over the other volunteers who were responsible for building the Jones Field Recreation Area, and not being recognized with a plaque. The Commission discussed the plaque, post and location. The Commission supported the idea of recognizing Jack Baggley and Jeffrey Moulton for their Fenway Park- Field of Dreams plan and implementation. The Commission discussed the problems with vandalism at Jones Field and the concession stand being broken in to with damage to Town Property multiple times. Vandalism at the field is a current concern and if the plaque/pole were damaged then who would be responsible (material and labor) for the repairs. Also, would the pole be an obstruction to people running through the area. The old concession stand is no longer in the location right over the bridge so exactly where would the plaque be located. The Commission discussed options including: one plaque with the wording proposed by N. Moulton with additional wording thanking the Alton Youth League members through the years, the Town of Alton, and the community volunteers that have contributed to the Recreation Area; installation of a plastic/poly sign with 10" letters announcing "Baggley-Moulton Field" on the backstop of Little Fenway; sign in center field announcing "Baggley- Moulton Field". The field signs would be out of reach from vandalism while recognizing the contributions made by Jack Baggaley and Jeffrey Moulton. It was the consensus of the Commission for K. Troendle to contact N. Moulton with their suggestions, and see if he would be amicable to any of the suggested options.

New Business

Property Rental Policy- Review- K. Troendle presented a DRAFT revised Property Rental Policy she was asked to revise, and have the Commission review before it was presented to the Board of Selectmen. The Commission Bylaws were consulted, and they do not state that the Commission has the authority to change or recommend Town Policies. The Commission reviewed the DRAFT Policy as presented. K. Roberts made a motion that the Parks and Recreation Commission has no recommendation with the Property Rental Policy as presented, motion was seconded by K. Thomas and approved.

Receipt of request for ADA accessible Community Playground- The Commission reviewed the email forwarded from the Selectmen's office from MayBeth Mann in regard to requesting an ADA accessible playground in Alton. The Commission noted that the playground at Alton Central School is ADA accessible, and less than twenty years old, and also the playground at Railroad Park is ADA accessible and less than twenty years old. The Commission discussed requesting a Capital Reserve Fund through the budget/CIP process for improvements to Jones Field that would include installing an ADA playground in addition to other needed repairs (dug outs; ADA walkway to playground; field improvements). The Commission discussed the possibility of working with other organizations for community recreation projects including the Rotary and AYL. The Commission suggested replying to Mrs. Mann that they reviewed and understand her request, and there are ADA accessible playgrounds in Alton, and they will look into making upgrades to Parks and Recreation Department playgrounds.

Composting Options- E. Shelton brought forth the idea of looking into offering compost bins through the Parks and Recreation Department as a form of recycling. At this time the program is not being offered.

Summer Programs- The Commission reviewed the 2021 Summer Brochure. K. Troendle noted that some events like Summer Camp, 5K Race and Craft Fair were not able to take place because the Town buildings were closed until June 1, and there was much uncertainty with COVID concerns and what would be allowed to take place. 2021 Summer Programs include: Around the World Virtual 5K Race- co-sponsored by Meredith Village Savings Bank; Concert Series; Mini Putt League; Adult Pickleball; Yoga Classes; Three Hiking Programs; Kayak Trips; Paint Night at the Bandstand; Line Dancing; Lego Building; Town Wide Yard Sale; Virtual Kids Science Camp; Unplug Day; Community Cookbook; Kindness Rocks; Creative Corner and more.

Parks and Recreation Commission Membership- The Commission discussed the resignation of Everett Clark and wished him well in his move out of state. The Commission acknowledged the many positive contributions that E. Clark has made to the Department, and the Town of Alton and they will miss his involvement. E. Shelton announced she will fulfill her term which expires in March 2023 but will not renew her appointment. She will be moving on to enjoy her retirement. The Commission was happy to hear she will be remaining on until 2023. The Commission reviewed the application of John Markland for Commission membership. E. Shelton made a motion to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that John Markland be appointed as a Parks and Recreation Commission member for a three-year term, motion was seconded by M. Stanley and passed. K. Thomas made a motion to recommend to the Board of Selectmen moving Ken Roberts from the alternate position to a full member and for K. Roberts to fulfill Everett Clark's term until 2023, motion was seconded by E. Shelton and passed. The Commission will invite Stacie Kiczuk to attend their next meeting and perhaps be an alternate, as she expressed interested in being involved with the Commission.

Recreation Revolving Fund Request- K. Troendle requested that the following expenses be approved from the Recreation Revolving Fund: \$33.99 for Pickleball (PPE-bleach, masks, dish soap); \$59.94 for Spotify (6 months of music for programs- \$9.99/month); \$72.93 for Pickleball (12 pack balls- 3 packs); \$94.88 for Summer Camp Director 2020 (5.75 hours x \$16.50/hr); \$198 for AFAA Recertification fee; \$199 for AFAA 16 Credits for Recertification; \$158 for no sew craft (30 blankets); \$156.88 Winter Activity Box; \$200 Esports registration fee; \$120.90 for Zoom (Programs- October 2020-July 2021); \$300 for 5K Timing- 2020; \$1,054.85 5K Shirts- 2020; \$203.80 for 5K prizes- 2020; \$641.60 for 52.4 mile challenge shirts-2020; \$35- Mt. Major Snowmobile Club dues-2021; \$6,000.54 for Administrative Assistant 2021 Salary for programs/projects (7 hours per week x \$16.36 per hour x 26 weeks=\$2,977.52 and 7 hours per week x \$16.61 x 26 weeks= \$3,023.02). Total for all expenses is \$9,530.31. The current account balance is \$44,777.07. K. Thomas made a motion to approve the request for \$9,530.31 as presented, motion was seconded by E. Shelton and passed.

Other

Questions- E. Shelton asked about the status of the Lifeguards in Alton Bay for the summer. K. Troendle reported Lifeguards were not hired under the direction of the Town's EMT. E. Shelton asked about the front signs at the Museum. K. Troendle reported that the Museum building sign is part of the Museum property which is managed by the Selectmen, and the lettered swing sign is placed at the property to advertise community programs.

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 7:35pm; motion was seconded by E. Shelton and passed. The next meeting is scheduled for a date in September TBD at 6:00pm at the Pearson Road Community Center.

Respectfully submitted,

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

APPROVED 9.23.21