

Minutes
Alton Parks and Recreation Commission
August 20, 2015
Jones Field, 6:00pm
A.V.A.S. Building, 7:25pm

Members Present: William Lionetta, Kristin Thomas, Jonathan Downing, Phil Wittmann and Peter Leavitt.

Public: Nancy Downing at Jones Field; At AVAS: Joan Blackwood, Karen Poore and Cindy Miller.

Staff Present: Kellie Troendle

Call to Order

The Meeting was called to order at 6:05pm by W. Lionetta. The Commission met at Jones Field Park and walked the trail from the State of NH Dam to the Water Department pump house and Parks and Recreation Department field access road. The Commission discussed the following items to be included in the Park Master Plan: installing a kiosk with park maps; signage for park, boat and trail access; paving the parking lot; expanding the parking area to accommodate more vehicle parking and additional handicap parking spaces; ADA accessibility stone dust paths from the dam to the parking lot and around the perimeter of the fields; expanding the fields and making nature trails; trimming trees and removing trees for safety and to make an accessible walking path; installing a ADA accessible portable toilet; having a portable toilet on the field side of the bridge; surveying the property and knowing the boundary lines; locating a dog park area behind the fence and playgrounds; thinning out the trees/brush behind the playgrounds and general maintenance items of: painting, building repairs and installation of playground surface material.

Approval of Agenda

J. Downing made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented; motion was seconded P. Leavitt and passed.

Approval of Minutes

K. Thomas made a motion to approve the Minutes of July 16, 2015 as presented; motion was seconded by P. Leavitt and passed. P. Wittmann abstained as he did not receive a copy of the Minutes by email (Mr. Wittmann will be added to the email distribution list).

Public Input

Alton Bay Improvements- Joan Blackwood, Karen Poore and Cindy Miller met with the Commission in regard to Garden Club recommended improvements in Alton Bay. J. Blackwood, representing the Garden Club, presented a plan of adding green spaces to the islands in the bay to include: irrigation, grass, trees, flowers, rock gardens, and park benches. Different species of trees and flowers were discussed as well as seasonal maintenance of the areas. The Garden Club received a donation of \$25,000 from past Garden Club members and the club wanted to use the funds to improve Alton Bay. There was discussion about installing an irrigation system at the same time the sidewalks were redone and whose responsibility it will be to pay for water use. The Commission noted the importance of providing shade trees in Alton Bay. J. Blackwood presented a plan on her own, to make improvements to the existing Alton Bay Land Bandstand and to conduct a fundraiser to cover the expenses. J. Blackwood shared a picture of the changes to include a carrying beam, removal of the

middle pole, adding a front porch/platform and adding a ramp and lighting with a garden around the perimeter of the bandstand. There was discussion about using vinyl on the bandstand for permanence and concerns with the look of the vinyl and actual durability. The Commission discussed making improvements to the bandstand to include: removing the shrubs around the perimeter and adding additional plantings; adding simple arches; adding lighting; removing the front post; changing the grading in the front if needed; adding a handicap ramp and to keep the structure as close to original as it can be- to include wood trim and posts. The Commission also noted the importance of providing yearly maintenance to keep the wooden structure in good condition. The Commission agreed that the Alton Bay Bandstand is unique, it matches the water bandstand, and the uniqueness should be preserved and not changed into a gingerbread type structure that is common in other communities.

Old Business

Appointment of Chairman- J. Downing made a motion to appoint W. Lionetta as chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission, motion was seconded by K. Thomas and passed.

Barbershoppers Event- J. Downing reported on the success of the Barbershoppers Event. There were 320 tickets sold with seven choruses and fifteen quartets. Speed boat rides were offered by volunteers and the Barbershoppers were singing in Alton Bay and other Alton venues. The Lakes Region Chordsman provided: online ticketing, refreshments, staff at the event to sell tickets and they coordinated the sound and lights with PMHS student sound technicians. Parks and Recreation provided the reservation of the Town buildings and Bandstand and reservation of PMHS, and J. Downing coordinated the boat rides and other services/publications. The expenses were the buttons, PMHS janitor; boat ride gift cards and the PMHS music student scholarship. The Lakes Region Chordsman would like to co-sponsor the Barbershop Jamboree in 2016 and recommended the date of August 20, 2016. W. Lionetta made a motion to continue with co-sponsoring the Barbershoppers event with the Lakes Region Chordsman and to have the event at PMHS on August 20, 2016, motion was seconded by K. Thomas and passed.

Tennis Courts- The Town Tennis Courts will be closed during the week of August 24 for resurfacing and painting.

New Business

Revolving Fund Expenses- K. Thomas made a motion to approve the following expenses from the Revolving Fund, motion was seconded by W. Lionetta and passed: \$50.00 gift cards to two boat ride providers for the Barbershoppers; \$50.00 gift card to the Line Dance instructor and \$1,244.40 for Granite State Race Service for providing the timing and race bib chips for the 5K Race.

Agenda Items Tabled

Due to the length of the meeting and the late hour, the Commission agreed to table the rest of the Agenda items until the next meeting.

Adjournment

K. Thomas made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm; motion was seconded by P. Leavitt and passed. **The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 24, 2015 at 6:00pm with a site visit at Liberty Tree Park.**

Respectfully submitted,

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