

Norton Park Committee
June 9, 2021 – Regular Meeting
Town Hall – Room 2
127 Norwich Avenue

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Robert Misbach, Vice Chair Nan Wasniewski, Katherine Kosiba, Kevin Byrne at 7:28 pm, Alternates Julianna Cameron, Linda Pasternak.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Patrick Reading.

OTHERS PRESENT: Director of Public Works Jim Paggioli, Board of Selectman Liaison Denise Mizla, Andrew Norton, Cathy Russi.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Robert Misbach called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Due to the absence of two members, Chair Misbach seated Alternates J. Cameron and L. Pasternak as voting members.

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None requested.

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes of the April 14, 2021, Regular Meeting were presented for approval.

Motion by: N. Wasniewski
to approve the minutes as read.

Second by: K. Kosiba.

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

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4. CITIZENS' COMMENT

No comments received.

5. STATUS REPORT FROM JIM PAGGIOLI

Director of Public Works Jim Paggioli reported that the demolition contract has been completed, the bid process should take about three weeks and by Labor Day, all demolition and remediation work should be complete at the property.

6. QUESTIONS FOR BOS LIAISON

D. Mizla mentioned grants and suggested contacting Inland Wetlands Officer Jay Gigliotti as he has prepared grants for the Town. The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) is for non-profits, schools, towns that were adversely affected by the pandemic. Donations and fundraising for this project that were planned/expected were unable to move forward due to the pandemic.

There possibly will be committee comprised of community members to study and suggest how to allocate these ARPA funds.

7. AMENITIES

K. Kosiba presented the Commission members with photos of a bench to be built for the park. She is suggesting concrete pads be placed under the benches to make it easier to mow around. As all the proposed granite and beam benches have been purchased with donations, it was suggested to wait until the landscape plan is finalized and the grading is complete to decide on the number of this type of bench will be needed.

Waterproof boxes have been approved for placement at the property. These boxes will be placed on the property now containing fundraising brochures and information flyers.

8. PUBLICITY

8.1. CBA/Lions Presentations

A power point presentation was given to the Colchester Business Association and the Lions Club. Both went well.

K. Byrne joined the meeting during this discussion.

C. Russi said she has fundraising experience and offered several suggestions to the members.

8.2. CLT/CF&G Hike

The Colchester Land Trust and The Colchester Fish & Game Club held a hike in conjunction with the Connecticut Parks and Forest Association. K. Byrne said it went very well and the Fish & Game members cleared a section to a dam area.

8.3. Spring Clean-up Day at the Park

Boy Scout Troop 109 met with other volunteers on a Saturday to clean up the park of debris and help clean the trails.

9. FUNDRAISING

K. Kosiba will send members a link to a free webinar regarding fundraising for non-profit organizations. An up to date donation balance was not available for this meeting.

10. GRANTS

It was suggested to look into those grants that were not available in the last year as things may have changed.

11. PICNIC TABLE/BENCH SCOUT PROJECT

Discussed under Item 7. Amenities.

12. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

C. Russi said there are educational aspects of the park such as nature walks, plants, animals, history of the area that could be factors when looking for grants including the ARPA funds.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by: N. Wasniewski
to adjourn this meeting.

Second by: L. Pasternak.

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

Chair Misbach adjourned this meeting at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Slade
Clerk