

Norton Park Committee
December 9, 2020 – Regular Meeting
Zoom Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Robert Misbach, Vice Chair Nan Wasniewski, Patrick Reading, Kevin Byrne, Katherine Kosiba, Alternates Julianna Cameron, Linda Pasternak.

OTHERS PRESENT: Board of Selectman Liaison Denise Mizla, Director of Public Works Jim Paggioli, Ned Wasniewski, Andrew Norton, Joyce Sypher, Jack Fairburn, Merrill Collins, Cathy Russi.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Misbach called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

No additions were requested.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by: N. Wasniewski

to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2020, Regular Meeting, as read.

Second by: K. Kosiba.

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

4. APPROVAL OF 2021 MEETING DATES

Motion by: K. Kosiba

to approve the 2021 Meeting Dates as presented.

Second by: N. Wasniewski.

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

5. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

The guests introduced themselves but no comments were received.

6. STATUS REPORT FROM JIM PAGGIOLI

J. Paggioli stated the research and paperwork has been completed for the acquisition of 129 Westchester Road and is on the Board of Selectmen's agenda for this Thursday. A Request for Proposal (RFP) will go out for the demolition of the house. K. Kosiba offered to make a list of items that the Town, State and this committee will be responsible for.

7. VOLUNTEERS

K. Kosiba has volunteers who want to work for and on this project. D. Mizla will look into the Town's policy for volunteers.

8. PUBLICITY

A proposal to send a letter to the neighboring homes and businesses has been suggested to explain the plan for the park and how the work is progressing. K. Kosiba is willing to research the addresses and draft a letter. The letter must be approved by the First Selectman

Motion by: K. Kosiba

to approve preparation of a letter to neighboring property owners and research addresses.

Second by: K. Byrne

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

9. FLIER DISTRIBUTION

RECEIVED
NORTON PARK COMMITTEE
2020 DEC 11 AM 11:31
Jack Fairburn
JOHN SYPER
JOHN SYPER

Further discussion of the distribution will be postponed until after the first of the year.

10. FUNDRAISING UPDATE

10.1 Amenity Reservations

Chair Misbach said there is one mill beam bench left to be purchased and two granite benches. There are also bricks and capstones available.

10.2. Monetary

K. Kosiba is waiting for an update from the Finance Department. K. Kosiba provided an accounting of the monetary donations – to date there is \$7,701 monetary donations and another \$7,380 for commemorative park items.

N. Wasniewski has proposed sending a letter to local businesses seeking donations. After a few edits, the letter will be sent to the First Selectman for approval and then sent to prospective donors early in the new year. That will give time to compose a list of businesses.

J. Cameron has received two quotes for the proposed pavilion - \$71,850, and \$75,000. Another quote is necessary to meet town requirements.

11. GRANTS

K. Byrne has been working on a possible grant through the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP). There is also a possible grant available through Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut with a deadline of January 13, 2021. K. Byrne will send the grant application for \$20,000 to the First Selectman for a signature.

12. FORUM

The Public Forum was held on November 23, 2020, virtually through Cragin Memorial Library. Seventeen citizens attended and all participated with questions. There will be a second forum possibly in mid-January. K. Kosiba thought the November forum had a short time for getting publicity out. The next one should have publicity about three weeks ahead of time.

13. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

Joyce Sypher said she is interested in the project and would like to volunteer to help.

Jack Fairburn said he would be an ambassador to the neighbors and businesses in the area.

Cathy Russi commented that she had a difficult time finding the Zoom information for this meeting and she is interested in environmental issues.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by: N. Wasniewski
to adjourn.

Second by: K. Kosiba

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

Chair Misbach adjourned this meeting at 7:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Jane Slade
Clerk