

Park Commission Meeting Minutes
March 3, 2010

Present: Maureen Korson, Bob Nemet, Jamie Harrington, Tom Chipman, Tom Dumas

Past Minutes

The Commission was unable to approve minutes of Nov 18 or Dec 16th

Tom Dumas motioned to accept minutes of Jan 14, 2010 as written. Tom Chipman seconded the motion. All in favor

Stoddard Bathhouse

- Mr. Chipman stated that it is time to get the bathhouse repair underway.
- It is necessary to get three estimates. The Park Dept received one estimate last June from RCM Carpentry.
- Ms. Korson stated she had been in contact with Mr. Greg Lewis and he is not interested in the job and suggested Mr. John Gagnon.
- Mr. Chipman offered to meet contractors there to talk about job.

Sandboxes

The commission discussed the proposed sandboxes at Pleasure Point and Stoddard Park. There was much discussion about how large to make the boxes and where to place them. Mr. Dumas suggested calling for pricing Mr. Chipman suggested meeting at the parks to discuss placement on Mar 9th at 12:30.

Patoma Cabin

Tom Chipman inquired as to the status of the Patoma Cabin as he had been advised there was another break-in. Ms. Korson stated that she had revisited the issue again with Mr. Greg Lewis as he had been contracted repair the cabin doors at the end of the summer. Mr. Lewis suggested perhaps an alarm system be installed. After much discussion it was decided that it would not make sense at this time to install an alarm system and that MR. Lewis should proceed with making the repairs as originally planned.

Flagg Building

- Mr. Chipman stated the interior work in Flagg has been completed.
- Mr. Chipman suggested that trim be installed on the outside of the building and would like to get a price from on the project.
- Mr. Chipman stated that he has a small light fixture that can be installed in the bathroom.

Cold Storage Space at Flagg

Ms. Korson stated that to date no payment has been received for the storage space at Flagg from Holliston Youth Lacrosse. Mr. Chipman stated that he will follow-up with them regarding this. At a previous meeting the Commission had decided on a rental fee of \$500 for LAX.

The Commission discussed the verbal storage space arrangement that had been struck in August of 2006 with Holliston Youth Baseball. Ms. Korson stated that to her knowledge the rental fee had never been paid, it should have gone directly to the School Department because the Park Department was did not have a lease agreement with the School Department at that time. There was much discussion over what amount should be charged to baseball. The Commission set an annual rate at \$750 for the large room storage space being utilized.

Brad Miller of Winning Pitchers also expressed interest in cold storage space. It was decided that the old "kitchen" room would be offered at a rate of \$250 per year.

It was decided that Ms. Korson should send invoice to Baseball for \$600 for previous 3 years. In addition baseball will be advised the new annual rental fee of \$750 annually.

Mr. Dumas suggested placing dates on bills as of April 1st. Mr. Chipman stated that all storage rental people should be sent letters. Ms. Korson stated that she will type up draft letters and send them to Mr. Chipman for his approval.

Mr. Tom Dumas made motion that effective April 1st 2010 Holliston Youth Baseball Softball would be charged a storage rate of at a rate of \$750 per year thru March 31, 2011, Holliston Youth Lacrosse \$500 per year and Winning Pitchers \$250.00 per year. Mr. James Harrington seconded the motion. All in favor.

Mr. Chipman stated that the Historical Commission is still occupying a room at the end of the wing that could be used for cold storage. Ms. Korson stated that she spoke with Ms. Judy Grosjean of the Historical Commission and advised her the Park Dept would like to consolidate their storage into a smaller room.

Goodwill Park Playground

At 7:45pm Ms. Liz Nemeth, Ms. Stephanie Collier and Ms. Liz Kelly From Mission Possible Holliston arrived.

Ms. Korson advised the Park Commission that a federal grant program, offering a 50% reimbursement, has been made available and would allow for funding a playground renovation; the application deadline is March 31, 2010. Ms. Korson advised the commission that the application is very complex and would need to involve several key departments; Ms. Mary Greendale has offered to assist with the preparation of the application. There was discussion around what would be allowable to request for reimbursement through the grant program. Ms. Nemeth stated that to date, Mission Possible has raised \$60,000, with \$20,000 of that amount to be dedicated towards a brick walk-way. Ms. Korson stated that the money raised by MPH would have to be turned over to the Town and actually be in the Town account prior to the contract being signed with the state. Ms. Nemeth stated that she would contact other groups like Celebrate Holliston and Newcomers to see if they can get some more money upfront to put in as part of the match. There was much discussion about the possibility of a phased build, and adding on pieces of equipment each year. Ms. Collier stated that there should be further discussion around what the actual vision of a phased build should be. Ms. Korson stated that in order to move forward with the grant there must be agreement on a plan. There was much discussion about what parts of the playground should be worked on first if there is a phased build. The conversation turned to how the program could be phased with the cash on hand should the grant not come through. Discussion centered on: initial demo of the equipment, site prep, and engineering of the rain garden, drainage, and parking lot. Ms. Nemeth stated that idea for the demo of the mound and parking lot arose from feedback received from the community regarding the inconvenience of the lack of parking and turn around space on Green St. After much discussion it was decided that there were many questions that need to be answered by the Highway Superintendent. Ms. Korson stated that involved departments will be meeting on Monday March 8th. There was agreement among the commission that the plan developed by Mission Possible is very desirable and would be a great improvement however concern was voiced over whether the money could be raised. Mr. Dumas wondered about the state of the trees in the tot area. Mr. Nemet stated it would be difficult to get the trees out of the lot without damaging the play area. Mr. Chipman stated that he was not in favor of taking any equipment out of the park until there was a definite plan and funding in place. Mr. Chipman went on to say that he feels there are too many loose ends regarding the proposal. After further discussion regarding the grant process Ms. Korson stated that she will be meeting with Paul LeBeau, Andrea Minihan, Karen Sherman and Tom Smith on Monday to go over the specifics of the grant application. If the grant is approved there could potentially be approximately \$80,000 in additional funds. Mr. Chipman stated that if the grant is approved he would suggest that MPH hang on to the funds and see if more money can be raised in the next year and if not approved the Park commission should consider a plan on using the funds including the \$40,000 to replace the equipment and forgo the parking lot. Ms. Korson stated that the gift account currently has \$9,000 which could be added to the

funding. The commissioners felt the funds in the gift account should be kept for the purpose of supporting scholarships.

FY11 Budget

Ms. Korson met with the Finance Committee and they would like her to get signage for the lake indicating the fact that lifeguards will not be available, (swim at own risk). Lifeguards will be hired for Jr. & Sr. Patoma camp sessions only. Ms. Korson will check with Town Counsel prior to ordering the signs for correct wording.

Programs

Ms. Korson presented the brochure to the commissioners. This year the cost of the Jr. & Sr. Patoma programs increased by approximately \$20 due to the high cost of running the camps.

Ms. Korson also stated that she had spoken with Paul Lebeau regarding hiring Peg Driscoll to perform clerical duties now that the office is getting busy. The commissioners agreed to hire Ms. Driscoll for 8 – 10 hours a week.

Lawnmower Repairs

Bob Nemet informed the commission that it will cost \$5,444.60 to purchase a pump and tires and rims for the lawnmower used for the fields. Ms. Korson will contact Keith Buday to see if the school will waive the fee usually charged for use of the field house, due to the fact that the lawnmower/tractor is used on the school fields as well, to apply to the cost.

Tom Dumas moved to approve \$5,444.60 be spent for a pump and 4 rims to C.N. Wood and 4 tires to Long Distance Tires which will be purchased by the Highway Department and the bills will be forwarded to the Park Department.

Once Around

Bob Nemet informed Ms. Korson that the tennis courts were in need of new straps.

Both Mr. Harrington and Mr. Dumas announced that they will be seeking another term this May once their term is up. Mr. Chipman stated they both will be missed.

At 9:20 Mr. Dumas moved to adjourn. Mr. Harrington seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Maureen Korson