

Park Commission Meeting Minutes  
May 14, 2014

Present: Kristen Hedrick, Inge Daniels, Paul Healy, Bob Nemet, Art Winters

Minutes

Ms. Daniels stated she had read the minutes and did not have an issue with them. Mr. Healy asked to follow-up on an issue with (undiscernible on tape) at Pleasure Point. Ms. Hedrick stated she put in a call and never heard anything back about it. Additionally Mr. Healy asked for follow-up regarding the “ga-ga” pit. Ms. Hedrick stated it no longer has any grass in it. Mr. Healy asked for further clarification as to where the permission came from in order to place it on the baseball field. Mr. Nemet stated the permission came from Keith Buday. There was much discussion about the location of the “ga-ga” pit. Ms. Hedrick stated it is on school grounds and the Park Commission does not have jurisdiction over it, although she had recommended it be located near the playground. Mr. Healy expressed concern over the location and proximity to the baseball field and asked if Keith Buday could be invited to a meeting to discuss this. Ms. Daniels suggested the youth baseball group approach the School Department about the location of this pit. Mr. Healy stated that Mr. Buday should have approached the Park Commission. Ms. Hedrick stated she will call Mr. Buday to discuss this.

**Mr. Winters moved to accept the Minutes of April 9, 2014 as written. Mr. Healy seconded. All in favor.**

Weston Pond Project

Nathaniel Bagge came into the meeting to say that he has finished writing the proposal and he needs to get Park Commission signatures on it. Ms. Hedrick asked if he has been to the Conservation Commission. Mr. Bagge stated the Conservation Committee wants to see the same thing. Mr. Bagge stated he is working on an Eagle Scout project at Weston Pond to rebuild the bridge at Weston Pond that connects the space around the pond to the little island. Mr. Bagge stated he plans to pull up the old planks and replace them with new ones and also clean the area up. Mr. Bagge is planning to do the project in August. Ms. Daniels the proposal looks fine, but she wants to make sure that there will be others in the troop involved & supervising the project. Ms. Daniels stated that in the future another project could be a sign discussing the ecology of the lake.

Goodwill Park Rain Garden

Ms. Daniels stated the Holliston Garden Club has offered to purchase a 4<sup>th</sup> sign for the rain garden at Goodwill Park. Ms. Daniels stated that the sign would be similar in design to the ones that are currently there. It will be a gift to the park and no cost will be incurred by the Park Dept. Ms. Daniels offered to approve the final design on behalf of the Park Commission.

Jeff Golden HYBSA

Holliston Baseball Softball rep Jeff Golden came in to discuss the \$500 fine levied against the group for using the fields when they were closed. Mr. Golden stated that the board had made it clear to the group that the fields were closed. However, someone within the group asked another individual within the group if the fields could be used anyway, as it had been observed that the varsity team had been playing

on another field. Mr. Golden stated that the person who told the person that the fields could be used had no authority to tell that person that the fields could be used. Mr. Golden stated that in response to this issue he has now taken over full responsibility for scheduling the fields. Mr. Golden stated he has sent multiple emails to all those using the fields that they must follow the rules. Mr. Golden stated he would like to have leniency in light of the fact that the group has taken such great care of the fields. Mr. Golden stated that the group has put in dug-outs, scoreboards, lights etc. There was much discussion about how much of a problem the misuse caused, and how difficult it is on the Park Commission side to have to close the fields. Mr. Healy stated that a few of the commissioners have already discussed it and he does not have a problem with dropping the fine. Mr. Healy stated the money should be going to the kids and not for paying fines and the Commission wanted to get the organization's attention so it would not happen again. Mr. Golden stated he greatly appreciated the consideration. Ms. Daniels stated she had spoken to Kevin Conley at Town Meeting and the score boards at Adams and Damigella do not say the same thing, one says home/visitor & the other says visitor/home and the older board is reversed. Mr. Golden stated perhaps the older board could use a new coat of paint and perhaps it can be reversed. Mr. Healy asked if Mr. Golden had any advanced knowledge of the "ga-ga" pit, he stated he did not, and stated it is not in the most ideal location. Mr. Healy asked if Mr. Golden could speak with Mr. Buday to have it moved.

#### Recreation Update

Ms. Hedrick stated there are two School Committee meetings left, and a letter needs to come from the Parks Commission alerting them to the intent of the Park Commission to come to an agreement about Flagg. Ms. Hedrick stated Ms. Kaspern stated the letter should be drafted and presented for the next meeting in the event something else needs to be done. Ms. Daniels stated the letter should state that the Park & Rec Dept. needs a new building, this building is in disrepair, the Selectmen have given their blessing to investigate the feasibility of building a new building in the current location of the Flagg Building, and that the Commission is interested in encompassing the needs of the community & school into whatever is built. Ms. Hedrick stated it would be best to have the letter sent in advance of getting on the School Committee agenda. Ms. Hedrick will start on the letter and get it to the Commission to review.

Ms. Hedrick stated the Goodwill Park clean-up was performed by Ahronian Landscape. Ms. Hedrick stated that because the quote received for ongoing maintenance is extremely high, she and Ms. Korson have been discussing the possibility of coming up with another strategy to hire a mature individual, interested in gardening, who might be a viable candidate for a Goodwill Maintenance worker. Ms. Korson has developed a detailed job description to post on the Town Website open positions and also email to the Park/Rec data base to advertise the job opening.

Celebrate Holliston wants to hold their annual event on Saturday September 20<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Hedrick stated that the same procedures as had been followed in previous years will be followed with regards to set-up and rain.

**Mr. Healy made a motion to approve the use of Goodwill Park for Celebrate Holliston on Sep 20, 2014. Mr. Winters seconded. All in favor.**

Ms. Hedrick stated she followed-up with Margaret Bishop regarding the swim lessons discussed at last month's meeting.

Ms. Hedrick stated that Ms. Korson has been working with Andrea Minihan to move forward with the dog friendly park and the area to be looked at next is the property behind Pine Crest Golf Course.

The Goodwill Park basketball benches are in the process of being ordered. They will be \$309.00 each.

Program counselors have been hired and as well as lifeguards. There are lots of new staff this year. Supplies, schedules, etc. are all in process. Registration levels are good and counselor staff will be used accordingly.

Ms. Hedrick has been working with the Town Accountant on the revolving account.

Ms. Hedrick will be going on vacation next week for one week. Ms. Korson will be out of the office for a portion of the following week for family matter, however will make herself available to cover programming that is still running. The office will be closed on Thursday & Friday.

#### Once Around

Mr. Healy & Ms. Hedrick met to discuss a way to develop a quarterly report.

Ms. Daniels stated the link to the lake survey results has been presented to the Commission. She stated that there are some constructive comments, with close to 600 responses.

**Mr. Winters made a motion to adjourn at 7:57. Mr. Healy seconded. All in favor.**