

Holliston Park Commission  
Minutes of March 11, 2015

Present: Melissa Kaspern, Paul Healy, Inge Daniels, Kristen Hedrick

Mold Testing

Ms. Hedrick stated the asbestos contract needs Park Commission signatures.

A quote for mold testing was presented. There was much discussion about the need for mold testing if the departments do not stay in the building. There was discussion about the fire and broken water pipes in the building. Ms. Kaspern stated the mold testing should occur to help facilitate a decision about a future home for Park & Recreation. Ms. Kaspern stated we are doing a dis-service to our clients and employees if we do not do the mold testing. Ms. Daniels stated we should just jump ship, the only thing that has been keeping us here is the large programming room, but now it sounds as though it has been compromised. Ms. Hedrick stated it is a possibility we could stay here until fall, but by next winter it will not be able to be here. Ms. Minihan has begun to look at rental properties around town.

**Ms. Kaspern made a motion to move forward with the mold testing if, after having a conversation with Paul Lebeau, warrants the Commission to have the testing done, so that Park & Rec can remain in the building. Paul Healy Seconded. All in Favor.**

Ms. Daniels asked that a copy of the asbestos report be sent to Brad Jackson, Keith Buday & Paul LeBeau.

Beach Stickers

Ms. Hedrick stated the pricing for the beach stickers has been at the same cost for some time. Ms. Hedrick compared the cost of Holliston's beach stickers with surrounding communities. Ms. Hedrick stated the cost of the sticker's are fairly inexpensive, and the costs associated with running the beach are rising. Ms. Daniels asked if there will be lifeguards at Pleasure Point this year. Ms. Hedrick stated she is not sure where that stands as of yet due to budget and staffing. Ms. Daniels stated will there be boat rentals available this summer. Ms. Hedrick stated she will be looking into that soon. Ms. Daniels stated she prefers to keep the price the same to encourage people to come and use the new boating activity that will begin this summer. Ms. Kaspern stated she would like to see lifeguards on the other side of the lake. Ms. Hedrick stated she has a gate guard posted at Pleasure Point, but she is not sure what type of staffing she will have. Ms. Daniels stated she enjoys Pleasure Point as it is a more low-key atmosphere without lifeguards. Ms. Hedrick stated there are very few people using the beach during the day, usage is heavier at night, after the lifeguards have left. There was much discussion about raising the cost of the stickers this year.

**Mr. Healy made a motion to keep the price per sticker the same as last year, \$40 for resident beach sticker, 2<sup>nd</sup> car \$15, Senior Car \$15, \$80 for non-resident , day pass for resident \$10, day pass for non-resident \$20. Ms. Kaspern Seconded. Mr. Healy- Aye, Ms. Daniels- Aye, Mr. Kaspern –No. Motion passed by majority vote.**

Ms. Hedrick stated there will be more parking at Stoddard this coming year and presented a bill from Stumpy's tree removal. Ms. Hedrick stated that staff will park there. Ms. Daniels stated she is concerned that it is angled parking and expressed concern about the ease of both entering and leaving.

Ms. Hedrick stated the Knights of Columbus would like to sell raffle tickets for a charitable cause at fields. Ms. Daniels stated in the spirit of the community it would be fine, but the organizations should be notified. Mr. Healy stated it feels like soliciting at the fields. Ms. Kaspern stated once you do it for one you have to do it for others. Mr. Healy stated the people doing it should be cleared first. It was discussed that the activities are youth oriented. After much discussion the commissioners decided to oppose the idea because it would feel like soliciting to those using the fields.

Ms. Kaspern stated she spoke with Bill Dowd. He stated he has many questions and will be invited to an upcoming meeting. Ms. Kaspern stated he advised her that it is not his intent to take away the revolving account, however he is concerned that while other governing bodies put together lists of planned improvements, no one really oversees the Park Commission and their decisions in making plans for improvements. His vision is that the Park Commission should annually present to the finance committee planned projects for the coming year as a source of checks and balances. Mr. Dowd stated that according to his interpretation of the Revolving Account 53D, advance approval of expenditures is required. Ms. Kaspern stated she understands his point of view, however there must be an element of control for the Commission make decisions in emergent situations such as the proposed mold testing. Ms. Kaspern stated the Commission needs to determine if, very clear clarification as to whether advanced approval for expenditures from revolving, are required by law.

#### Once Around

Mr. Healy inquired as to the status of the dug-outs. Ms. Hedrick stated it is her understanding that the dug-outs will be done by Brad Miller. Ms. Hedrick stated Mr. Nemet has been in contact with Brad and had been advised that they could possibly donate the dug-outs. Mr. Healy asked if Ms. Hedrick could follow-up to determine if they will be done by this spring. Ms. Hedrick stated the other dug-outs were installed at a cost of approximately \$17, 000.

Ms. Daniels stated the ultimate goal is a new building, and it is a critical next step to get a "Friends" organization together to support the effort. Ms. Daniels stated also the neighbors of Flagg have not been made aware that the plans to renovate Flagg have been postponed. Ms. Daniels stated the Commission needs to put a call out to the community to let them know we need a new building. Ms. Kaspern stated it should not be posted on Facebook because the person organizing the "friends" organization should have a certain skill set. Ms. Hedrick stated what it should be an email be sent out inviting the community to hear the plan. Ms. Daniels stated the summer is a good time to get the momentum going.

Motion to adjourn