

Holliston Parks Commission
Wednesday April 3, 2019
7:00 PM @ 1750 Washington Street

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM

Attendees: Paul Healy, Shaw Lively, Tom Chipman, Art Winters, Mark Frank, Lisa DiLuzio and Bob Nemet, Inge Daniels, James Keast and Chris Cain

Agenda

- Blair Square committee discussion
- Fields update
- Fence repairs
- Rail Trail connection project
- Director's Report
- Once Around

Shaw Lively introduced James Keast to the group. Mr. Keast is running for one of the open positions on the Park Commission.

Blair Square committee discussion

Inge Daniels presented a conceptual design of Blair Square as imagined by the Blair Square committee. She noted that the committee is in the early stages of design and are currently obtaining stakeholder feedback. The key points of the design are: a flexible and public gathering space, directional kiosk, bike rack, and fitness stations. The vision is to hold events such as outdoor markets, yoga classes and fundraising events (5k, etc). An amphitheater design is also included. The main feedback from the Parks & Recreation group was to include some type of restrooms in the design.

Fields Update

Mark Frank gave an update on the pre-season field status. The field covers placed at Weston Pond were successful and they definitely provided the grass a head start on growth. Mark reached out to the highway department about the field opening schedule and he said their timeline is still to be determined. Paul Healy asked us to have highway prioritize the Adams and Damigella fields as the high school is out early on those fields. Bob Nemet replied that those fields are always the first priority. Mr. Frank has asked Tim Drake, The Drake Company, to help set-up the fields if highway/DPW cannot get them done. As of this date, the fields are not ready to be prepped due to the ground conditions. The anticipated opening date is April 15.

Mr. Frank contracted with Page Junk Removal of Bellingham to remove the old scoreboard at Flagg Field. Bob Nemet stated that he has been asked HYBSA (Holliston Youth Baseball & Softball Association) to remove their damaged, wooden picnic tables from all fields.

Fence Repairs

Mark Frank received an estimate from Brad Mayo Fencing to 1) complete the fencing from the 2017 Patoma Court remodel project and 2) repair the basketball fence damage from large branches. There was a huge gap of fencing at the entrance to the tennis courts and players are frustrated by their tennis

balls not staying within the courts. Paul Healy made a motion to spend up to \$5,000 on the Patoma fence repairs; Tom Chipman seconded; all in favor.

Rail Trail

Mark Frank reported that GLM Engineering completed the design to connect the property at 1750 Washington Street to the rail trail. Mark will reach out to Tom Smith, DPW Superintendent, to determine how much of the project the DPW can complete. Once the DPW work estimate is determined, Mr. Frank will discuss the project cost with the rail trail committee and determine next steps.

Director's Report

Program revenue is up 25k over the same period in 2018. Spring registration is just beginning to pick up.

Shaw Lively and Mark Frank did a walk through at Patoma Park and identified a lot of dead trees. Mr. Frank is obtaining a quote from Stumpy's for the tree removal and then will follow-up with Jeff Ritter to discuss funding options. Since the trees are a safety concern with sports commencing, the work needs to be done ASAP. Tom Chipman made a motion to spend up to \$10,000 for the tree removal, with the stipulation that we will seek reimbursement from the town. Art Winters seconded; all in favor.

Mr. Frank asked for the commission to designate an individual for the 9 Green Street committee. The focus of the committee is to determine if the town should take over the property at 9 Green Street. Lisa DiLuzio volunteered to sit on this committee. Paul Healy made a motion to designate Lisa DiLuzio to the 9 Green Street committee, Tom Chipman seconded; all in favor

Once Around

Art Winters noted that this would be his last meeting attended as a Park Commissioner.

Mark Frank is expecting a cost estimate of projects from Beals & Thomas in May.

Meeting Minutes: March 7, 2019

Attendees reviewed meeting minutes of March 7, 2019. Paul Healy made a motion to accept the meeting minutes as written, Tom Chipman seconded; Art Winters abstained; all in favor.

Shaw Lively made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 PM, Tom Chipman seconded; all in favor.