



Parks and Recreation Committee
Regular Meeting
Monday, April 4, 2022; 4:30 PM
Council Chambers
Minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER WITH ROLL CALL – The meeting was called to order by Chair John Kelly. Committee members present were Vice Chair Greg Veilleux, Jeff Dobb, Bob Huff and Committee Liaison Public Works Director Bethany Leavitt. Several community members were also in attendance.

A. Excused Absence(s) – Committee Secretary Desiree Sirois.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS: *The Parks and Recreation Committee allows at this time up to fifteen minutes of public comment on any subject not on the agenda and not in litigation, with a maximum of three minutes per person.* – None.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

A. March 21, 2022 Public Workshop at Athletic Field.

Mr. Veilleux moved, with second, to amend the Minutes to note that 15 community members were present at the public on-site visit at the Athletic Field. Impact to business was also included in the discussion. The Minutes were approved as amended (4-0).

IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA – It was moved, and seconded, to adopt the Agenda as presented (4-0).

V. REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Request from Healthy Acadia to Hold a Hancock County Food Drive and Family-Friendly Movie on the Village Green from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM on Saturday, April 30, 2022.

Emily Shanahan represented the applicant in support of the park use permit application. The application fee has been received; receipt of an insurance liability certificate and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) non-profit statement are forthcoming. Chair Kelly reviewed the application using the Findings of Fact Sheet.

Chair Kelly noted that the applicant would be allowed to ask for donations at the event. It was further requested that the applicant's address on the application be changed to Healthy Acadia's address at 140 State Street, Ellsworth, Maine 04605. It was moved, and seconded, that the application be approved as noted (4-0).

B. Dog Park on Town Park.

The meeting was well-attended by dog park proponents. Chair Kelly noted that the Parks and Recreation Committee is advisory to the Town Council. The Committee's role is to

inform, take comments, digest the information and present recommendations to Town Council. Chair Kelly delivered a presentation on the proposed dog park location (on the Athletic Field near the dirt parking lot off Main Street and behind the basketball court) and compared it to other existing dog parks across the state. Upon completion of Mr. Kelly's presentation, the floor was given to audience members to speak about the dog park. Almost all audience members spoke in favor of the dog park and raised many points that were echoed by others in attendance. The Committee members briefly deliberated on the subject. Mr. Veilleux moved, with second, for the Committee to prepare a dog park proposal for Town Council consideration (4-0).

C. 2022 Annual Committee Report to Town Council.

It was moved, and seconded, to table this item for discussion at the next meeting (4-0).

D. Public Works Update – Public Works Director Leavitt informed the Committee of the following Town-park related projects (no action taken):

- Bids have been requested for paving the Athletic Field dirt parking lot off Main Street;
- Status of the skate park juniper improvement;
- Life Flight pad fundraising update;
- Glen Mary Pool status.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS – None.

VII. COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA – Committee members requested the following items be discussed at the next meeting:

- Dog park
- Village Green bandstand
- Metered parking
- Paving for Athletic Field dirt parking lot off Main Street
- Glen Mary Pool
- Park Use Ordinance, Special Events review – clarification on approval standards regarding for-profit retail sales and non-profit retail sales on Town parks.
- 2022 Annual Committee Report to Town Council.

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE – April 25, 2022.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – 6:30 PM It was moved, and seconded, to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,



Bethany Leavitt
Public Works Director