

HEATH PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES via Zoom Wednesday 03/17/2021, 7:00 – 8:00 PM

In Attendance:

Appointed Committee Members: Kate Peppard (chair), Mike Cucchiara, Jenna Day, Bobby Honeycutt, Shahid Jalil

Ad Hoc Committee Member: Henry Josephson

7:00 PM MEETING START

1) Motion to approve previous meeting minutes issued January 2021 (Jenna), seconded by Mike. All in favor.

2) FINANCIALS

- Kate set 2021 town budget for Parks and Rec at \$150 (BHC trail celebration). Group agrees this amount is adequate.
- \$2,147.18 in town stabilization account. Town meeting vote required to access funds
- \$1,762.46 in town Recreation Fund. **ACTION: Kate to follow up with Hilma to get more information.**
- \$10,830.43 of \$20,000 spent for Mohawk Woodlands Grant (\$9169.57 remaining). \$7,000 allocated for tables/benches, and \$2000 for maps/signage.

3) MOHAWK WOODLANDS GRANT PROJECT UPDATES

- BHC TRAIL:
 - Tripping hazard work in the spring. A lot of leaf blowing and branch moving happened (Sha, Will Draxler & Mike). Henry has been walking/clearing trail and noted there are a lot of trees down by the waterfall. Trail cleanup day will be scheduled at May meeting. Tripping hazards to be cleared then.
 - Heath Herald is interested in an article on the new trail system – Mike is planning to write an article for the fall edition. Plan to coordinate opening celebration with this.
 - Sha and Emily put some pictures and a write-up in the Herald – THANK YOU!
 - Signage – additional signs have been purchased and delivered to Shahid. This should cover the trail signage (directional). **ACTION: Mike to order the kiosk signage.**
 - Maps - Jim Perry (Shelburne) connected Mike with a map maker and he is now working on BHC trail map. Need Jordan Lively approval of the map.
 - NOTE: due to COVID may not be able to put printed maps out.
 - Shahid suggested sending maps to the Heath Herald to print
 - Sha also suggested having laminated maps at each trail intersection
- Picnic table order update (Jenna): Negotiating price on four picnic tables and two benches to be distributed along the trail and at the overlook.
- Kiosk at town center needs to go on hold. Look to next grant opportunity for this.
- Renaming land to Burnt Hill Woodlands. **ACTION: Mike to bring to Select Board**

- Burnt Hill Land Connector Grant: Select board approved private counsel for title search. Once treasurer cuts a check the title attorney can be coordinated with (Mike).
- Signage/Branding ideas – Henry has been working on some sketches for a logo
- ACTION: Mike to send budget update out (complete).

4) SWIMMING ACCESS UPDATE: Kate has approached Rowe Parks and Rec. Lake will be open to school choice families this summer, no movement on full Heath access yet.

5) CROSS COUNTRY SKI & FUN RUN UPDATES (Shahid)

- Looking to hold a T-shirt contest for a future ski race/rally
- Looking to hold the fun run virtually/honor system – coordinate with the Ag Society, distribute the shirts at the Fair. Kate to bring to next Ag Society board meeting.

6) GYM INVENTORY UPDATE (Lyra): Kate created a google doc spread sheet to be populated, will send to Lyra (complete). Lyra would like to establish a loaning system for the equipment.

7) TOWN CENTER PARK MAINTENANCE:

- Street Grant is open up in May. We intend to apply to new picnic tables for the town common and chips for the basketball court (Jenna).
- Jenna and Jeff will be fixing the second b-ball hoop and want to clean/fill the cracks in the court.
- Mike noted Jordan Lively wants permission to remove the brush on his property line and partly on the town property to expose the mature maples and restores the stone wall. Group is in favor.

8) COMMUNITY INITIATED PROJECTS

The Heath Parks and Rec committee encourages Heath residents to bring their energy and momentum and skills forward to us with their passion project ideas. The P&R committee can help: with planning and coordination with the town, offer outreach to gather support, provide support for grant/funding submission requests.

- 1) Meredith Wecker & Andrew Kurowski want to bring an ice skating rink back to Heath
- Fairgrounds, or town center? **ACTION: Kate to talk to Hilma about town center option.**
 - There is a flat parcel near the old town hall. This is adjacent to the center fire hydrant as well.
 - Ice clearing: Lyra is connected to the Churchills – may be able to talk to Skip about equipment to keep it cleared.
 - Bobby will work with Andrew and Meredith to plan out the rink and talk to Doug about the Fire Department flooding the rink (if at town center).

9) NEW BUSINESS

- Shahid wants to do some regular events connected to the library – drive foot traffic to the library and increase awareness of Parks and Rec.
 - Jellybeans in the jar
 - Take home crafts
- Bobby wants to do a documentary series in the Community Hall once it opens – maybe start by projecting on a screen in the summer. Bobby to coordinate with library for material.