

HEATH PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES - SATURDAY 10/16/2021 - 3:00 - 4:30 PM

Select Board Appointed Committee Members in attendance: Kate Peppard (chair), Mike Cucchiara, Jenna Day, Shahid Jalil

Public Participants: Chelsea Jordan-Makely (awaiting Select Board appointment), Will Draxler, Art Schwenger, George Gordon

Meeting called to order 3:12 PM

- 1) **Reviewed Agenda** - no new items added.
- 2) **Welcome to Chelsea (and Bob Dane in absentia)** - P&R nominated member(s), awaiting Select Board appointment.
- 3) **Review and approve minutes from 9/29 Special Meeting to appoint candidates to the open seats.** Mike moved to approve the minutes as written; Jenna seconded.
Discussion: Kate noted that the Select Board is now requiring submission of resumes and letters of intent to the Select Board for committee candidates. The group agreed that we feel the candidates CV's and intentions can be reviewed by the committee itself rather than adding an extra review by the Select Board. This process adds a layer of resistance when we are already in condition of declining volunteerism. We hope the Select Board will accept our committee's thoughtful review of the qualified and enthusiastic candidates for the two openings on our committee.
- 4) **Budget Review:** our annual budget of \$150 has not been spent, there is still \$2,147.18 in the stabilization account (requires vote at town meeting to spend), and \$1,762.46 in the Recreation Fund.
- 5) Set Winter/Spring Meeting Schedule:
 - a) Meetings to be held every other month, second Wednesdays 7:30 - 8:30 PM with focus groups/subcommittees meetings as needed.
 - b) Schedule through the end of FY22: 12/8/21, 2/9/22, 4/13/22, 6/8/22
- 6) Picnic Tables - It turns out we only need ONE up on the BHC trail, so we can provide another table to the town center. NOTE (post-meeting addendum): this needs to go through the town, and the Town Coordinator would prefer to see the table go down by the playground/basketball court so the town green does not get too congested (makes it harder to mow, etc.). Table will be placed on the trail in the spring.
- 7) Building Use Committee - Kate informed the group that the Building Use Committee will be sending community based projects and activities to Parks and Rec for sponsorship. We will review the requests and approve if they align with the committee's objectives to enhance recreation in Heath.
- 8) Member Updates:
 - a) Town Center (Jenna) - need to seal cracks on basketball court, and sand/paint the second hoop backboard. Tree trimming will also need to be taken care of. Trails

(Mike) - have funding to connect to Catamount. Will be looking to place two benches - one at trailhead, one at Fairy Dell. Map for the trail kiosk is in process. Signs have been made to place along the BHC trail.

9) Project Priorities for the coming year:

- a) Trails - Expansion and upkeep (Mike heading up) - all agree this is a priority. Opening/dedication will be in the spring. Chelsea requested we have a land acknowledgment. The group agreed.
- b) Ski Race and Fun Run (Shahid) - Sha to follow up with the town for insurance logistics and permissions
- c) Community Yoga (Kate) - Kate wants to work on funding to provide an all-levels yoga class to the community. The group is in agreement this would be a nice amenity for the community. Mike moved that P&R sponsor community yoga allowing for use of town owned space for the program. Seconded by Jenna.
- d) Swimming Access - Kate is still working on this.
- e) Skating Rink - project originated from Meredith and Andrew. Mike to be the point person going forward. Mike to reach out to see if they can take the initiative with getting the materials and getting the rink built, with our support.
- f) Pickleball Court - There has been a request to get a Pickleball court up and running. Community members interested: Barbara and David Gordon, Susan and Bob Gruen. Kate to reach out to Barbara to notify that we will support their actions/activities and welcome Pickleball lines going onto the Basketball Court if they are willing to organize and do it. Perhaps they can also help with sealing the cracks.
- g) Other ideas - coordination with libraries for trail walks and history education (Chelsea)

10) Kate made a motion to adjourn, Shahid seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 3:58 PM and group proceeded on a beautiful fall hike to the Oxbow overlook via the BHC trail.