

RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

March 7, 2023

7:00 PM

Remote Zoom Meeting

Present: **Hema Santhanakrishnan, Commissioner; Joe Will, Chair; Steve Trimble, Clerk; Nancy Corcoran, Commissioner; Melissa Settiani-Rufo, Recreation Director; David Martin, Select Board Liaison.**

Public Attendees: none

I. Regular Business

1. Meeting minutes from December and February — approved as drafted.
2. Residents' Concerns — none
3. Reports:
 - a. Events: Concerts booked for the summer, with ~\$13-15k donated in support, include:
 - i. Heartless (holdover from weather last year)
 - ii. Breakers (Tom Petty)
 - iii. Elton John Tribute
 - iv. Tusk
 - v. Bob Seger cover
 - vi. Others including two kid-oriented shows.
 - b. Main Street Campus
 - i. This work was presented to the Select Board on 02/27 and it was approved to move to the detail level of the plans.
 - ii. This subcommittee meets monthly on the 2nd Monday of the month.
 - c. Human Services Committee

Recreation will present in April. Recreation would appreciate volunteer help at all summer events.
 - d. Community Preservation Committee

CPA Projects: Steve noted deliberations looked positive for all recreation requests at the CPC meeting and expects no concern sending the NARA Bridge Renovation to Town Meeting.

 - i. Gardner Playground
 - The Engineered plans are completed for the parking lot, and they have been approved by the Conservation Commission.
 - At issue was excessive "once in 100 years" water handling with Water District (east) and conservation land (south) abutting the park.
 - ii. Elm Street Court Reconstruction will go out to bid tomorrow, March 8th with bids due on April 5th.
 - iii. NARA Bridge Boardwalk Walk scheduled for April 3, 2023, at 11 AM to celebrate planned improvements with Senator Eldridge among others in attendance.
 - iv. Elm Street basketball Reconstruction: David would follow up with current status, but it appears the basketball courts will be rebuilt in the same location, but the court color will be modified.

II. New/Special Business

4. 2023 Independence Day Celebration Proposal: After looking at the firework date of June 30th, the Select Board opted to defer planned spending into future year celebrations. No Town Independence Day Celebration will occur in 2023.

5. Liz Settipani-Rufo has been voted Recreation Volunteer of the Year from her engagement throughout the year with the Recreation Department.
6. Seasonal Summer Positions: Melissa is enduring challenges with recruitment for summer positions. Only one lifeguard and a handful of camp counselors are returning from the previous year. Melissa is taking every step to hire for the summer including:
 - a. Posting on the Town Website.
 - b. Open house at NARA.
 - c. Planning to offer lifeguard certification class for no charge.
 - d. \$250 bonus for lifeguards who work the entire summer.
7. Field Fee Chart Review: Melissa explained how teams reserve a field by going over the pricing chart with everyone.
8. Consent Items
 - a. Letter to the Select Board About the Morrison Farm Conservation Restriction: The letter was approved by the Commission. Melissa will send it to the Town Manager to share with the Select Board.
9. Steve motioned to adjourn, seconded by Nancy. Motion passed unanimously.

Upcoming Recreation Commission Meetings

Date	Time	Location
April 5, 2023	7:00 PM	Zoom
May 3, 2023	7:00 PM	Zoom
June 7, 2023	7:00 PM	Zoom
July – No Meeting		