

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting
Dec. 13, 2017

Nina Holland
Brian Robingson
Tom Resek – Tannery Park Liaison
Bob Falciani
Ray Andresen
Beth Ward
Holly Edwards
Mark Haskell

Absent
David Olivas – alternate
Casey Leonard

Ray is going to ask David Olivas if he is able to start attending meetings or step off the committee.

Four Season update

Work on a Master Plan continues, with anticipation it will go before the Select Board soon for comments and possible approval.

Question: should the Parks and Rec Committee also look at it?

Beth: Yes, good to have them look at it.

Ray: One question is how much of the entire facility at Snow Bowl falls under Snow Bowl purview and how much is Parks and Recreation Committee purview.

Beth: With the Middle School building being torn up, they have zero ballfields for three years. Have told the school board they are able to use the fields as long as the normal users can still use it like they normally do. (Co-ed Adult Softball at 5 p.m. during the summer)

Brian – be mindful of the field conditions and if there is too much use, or the fields are wet, etc., then need a way to notify that fields are not usable for whatever period.

Beth: Soccer and field hockey in the fall. Baseball, softball and track during the spring.

Mark – there needs to be change to the fee schedule for the field. Big difference between school football, which is town one way or another, and teams from Cushing, Rockland or wherever coming up here and playing. I suggested a fee per game back in the day.

Bob: Investigate what other towns do and bring that forward to help with the argument.

Beth: About a year ago we talked about setting a booking fee for dates. We are managing everything, there is a schedule, and it takes our time and effort to do that.

Ray: If you are out there flying a kite on the football field and the football team shows up, you get kicked out.

Brian: I feel that the new board is amenable to change out there.

Snow Bowl Pump Update

Beth: Description of what happened.

Tannery Park Update

Tom: Grant for ground planning work. Farmers Market is going on already, and some of the money would be used for a permanent site for them. And the playground would also be included, with money already being raised for equipment. Pickle Ball group was spoken to and they are VERY interested. They have talked about holding a demonstration next spring/summer during market days. They are looking at using one of the corners that might need some flattening out. Cool thing about pickle ball is that it's a portable. Would be interesting to check out the noise levels, which would be one of the reasons to hold the demonstration. There are 40 active members of the group.

Nina: They claim in this midcoast area it is more popular than tennis. Anybody can play it.

Beth: Yes, anybody can play it. Older people too.

Nina: Yes, I played it too.

Tom: The hope would be that while we are waiting for the grant, we could go ahead with the demonstration. There is a portable basketball net that was put up, and I would like to ask the Friends if some money could be used to upgrade that.

Bob: Needs to come before the Select Board.

Tom: The playground committee really wants to make a presentation and it seems this committee would be a good one to do that.

Brian: In terms of the Tannery, is it under the purview of Parks and Recreation?

Tom:

Holly: If someone has put a basketball hoop out there, Parks and Recreation should know about it. It's a liability.

Beth: Maybe we should go in and remove it since it's winter now and you can work on a more formal request to have one installed.

Tom: That's why I am mentioning it here, as Audra asked me to bring these kinds of things to this committee.

Goals for 2018:
See Ray's handout.

Brian: I would personally like to see the speed limit reduced at Bog Bridge. It's dangerous.

Bob: Will need to make a request from the town of Steve Landry at DOT. Need to be careful because they work with a model, and can be actually increased instead of decreased.

Brian: Can we make a motion that the committee asks the town to request that DOT consider lowering the speed limit.

Beth: I will bring the request to Audra.

Curtis Island

There could be some ways to improve use and accessibility on and to/from Curtis Island.

Bob: Philosophy of the island is like philosophy of Snow Bowl, try it and see how it works.

Boat Racks

Bob: Beth will need to bring forth a recommendation to add it as a budget item. And if the Town takes it on, we need to know the cost. Because there is a cost involved to the town.

Brian: The idea is that the racks would work the same way the dinghy racks in the harbor.

Budgeting

Bob: It seems that with the matrix we created with things to do to various parks, etc., would be good to have some figures attached to those things. Access road and culvert at the Snow Bowl are two major things we want to be sure and include in the budget.

Bob: Recommendation to add two more columns to the matrix. Suggested funds and timeline.

NEXT MEETING:

Jan. 10