



Town of Dartmouth

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Department
of
Parks & Recreation

Timothy J. Lancaster, Director

James A. Vieira, Chair
Joseph Vieira, Vice-Chair
James C. Bosworth
Lisa B. Tavares
Sherri L. Tetrault

RECEIVED
2/5/15
4:00 PM
Parks & Rec Board
APPROVED
DARTMOUTH TOWN CLERK

Minutes

February 5, 2015
5:30 P.M. Meeting

Members Present: James Bosworth, Sherri Tetrault, James Vieira and Timothy Lancaster

Members Absent: Joseph Vieira and Lisa Tavares

Minutes

Motion made and seconded to approve the December 18, 2014 and January 14, 2015 Minutes.
Voted 3-0-0

Mr. Cataldo request

Mr. George Caltaldo was interested in performing on a Wednesday night during the concert series and in turn the proceeds from that event would be donated to the cancer society. Mr. Cataldo has performed at Apponagansett Park in prior years, but has not been affiliated with the concert series. Any donations he received were given to the cancer society. Motion made and seconded to allow Mr. Cataldo to perform at the park on a different day outside of the concert series. Voted 3-0-0

FY2016 Budget

Motion made and seconded to approve the two Recreation budgets: one level-funded and the other with a dollar increase to all seasonal employees to offset the minimum wage increase. The \$65,000 cap will most likely have to be increased for the 2016 budget. Voted 3-0-0

Motion made and seconded to approve the two Park budgets; one level-funded and the other with a dollar increase to all seasonal employees to offset the minimum wage increase. Voted 3-0-0

Concert Series

The two Friday nights that were added to the concert series a few years ago are no longer worth keeping due to the events from local areas. New Bedford offers free summer concerts on Fridays

as well as the Vineyard in Westport. Motion made and seconded to eliminate the two Friday concerts. Voted 3-0-0

Open Space Acquisitions

Tabled until further notice

Russells Mills Landing

Mr. Alan Heureux, Chariman of the Dartmouth Pathways Committee and Mr. Dexter Mead, Executive Director of Dartmouth Natural Resources Trust (DNRT) met with the Board to discuss safety ideas for the Russells Mills Landing area.

DNRT owns the Parsons Reserve across the street from Russells Mills Landing. This location is very popular during the daffodil season in the spring causing parking problems at the Landing as well as safety issues for pedestrians crossing the street to access the reserve.

The Pathways Committee has compiled a list of recommendations that have been discussed with Mr. David Hickox, Director of Public Works. Mr. Hickox believes the ideas are reasonable and can be worked out.

1. Install a path from the Landing parking lot along the tennis courts that leads to where the guard rail ends and run an eight foot crosswalk diagonally to the trailhead of the Parsons Reserve. A crosswalk would also be added at the other end of trailhead across Horseneck Road.
2. Install pedestrian signage at the crosswalks.
3. Add fog lines from Davoll's General Store to south of the curves along Horseneck Road at eleven feet wide to try and slow traffic down.
4. Use temporary signs 18" x 24" that state "yield to pedestrians in the crosswalk" in the center of the road during the heavy peak of daffodil season. The cost is \$390 dollars each, but the Department of Public Works may have some available.
5. Install 30 miles per hour signs to inform drivers of the speed limit in that area.

More expensive items:

1. Install short segments of guard rail along the roadway to designate the stone path behind guard rail to protect pedestrians.
2. Use a natural stone pathway to designate the walkway.
3. Purchase the parcel owned by Robert and Jane Sylvia that abuts the Landing. It is all riverfront assessed at \$14,600 This small addition of property would help with the pathway.

4. Signage within the Landing designating the parking area for the reserve and how to access it.

These suggestions were also emailed to the Select Board and Police Department in addition to the Department of Public Works.

A letter received from District 2 Fire Chief Timothy Andre was read. Chief Andre voiced his concerns about the landing being the avenue used for rescue equipment seeking a quick response to the Slocum River. On many occasions it would be near impossible to launch there because of the over-abundance of vehicles visiting the daffodil fields. Users of the ramp have complained to the Chief that there was no parking for them to launch their kayaks, etc. Chief Andre suggested that DNRT clear the old Horseneck Road off set curve at the south entrance. This would allow plenty of parking and would eliminate the hazard of pedestrians crossing the dangerous roadway.

Mr. Heureux and Mr. Mead will research the area that Chief Andre was referring to in his letter to see how many cars would fit without having to back into the roadway on the curve. Utilizing this area along with a designated area within the Landing lot should solve the parking problem. Mr. Mead will find out if there is a restriction about using DRPT land for parking.

Mr. Vieira stated that the Board received numerous complaints from people trying to utilize the park not associated with DNRT and not being able to find a space. He stated that he agrees with the walkways but doesn't want to use crushed stone because in his experience it creates too many problems. Concrete would be the best material, but since it's considered a historical park, it would first have to be approved by the Historical Commission.

Mr. Heureux will meet with the Departments of Public Works Board, the Police Department and David Cressman to get a feel from everyone regarding the priorities for this project.

The Board agrees with the Pathways Committee plans as long as the excessive parking can be alleviated. The Board is willing to designate an area to DNRT, but must keep the launch area clear as well as have ample parking for the patrons visiting the park. An attendant from DNRT will be needed to control the parking during the peak times of the daffodil season.

Directors Report

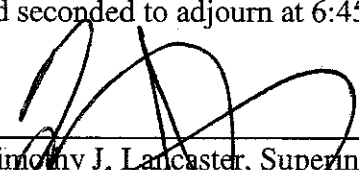
The Conservation Commission was approved to receive an additional million dollars towards the Round Hill salt marsh project. That money will be used to install a permanent boundary of the creek using rip rap to devise a channel along the existing property line. In doing so, it will solve some of the issues with the meadow shores residents, but may create more injuries from patrons climbing on the rocks.

Mr. O'Reilly will be drafting a Memo of Understanding as to the future maintenance once the project is complete. Mr. Lancaster informed Mr. O'Reilly that Round Hill is listed under the jurisdiction of the Select Board and is not park land.

Next meeting will be March 3rd at 5:00 P.M.

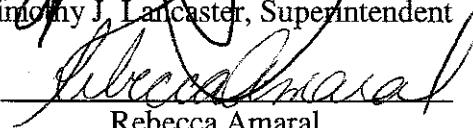
Motion made and seconded to adjourn at 6:45 P.M. Voted 3-0-0

ATTEST:



Timothy J. Lancaster, Superintendent

Transcribed by:



Rebecca Amaral