

PARKS COMMISSIONERS
HOUSATONIC COMMUNITY CENTER
1064 MAIN STREET
HOUSATONIC, MA 01236
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2012
5:30 P.M.

PRESENT:

KAREN SMITH – VICE CHAIRMAN

PAUL GIBBONS – ABSENT

STEVEN BANNON - ABSENT

CHARLES BOUTEILLER

ELIZA CRESCENTINI

THOMAS NORTON

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A. Minutes of December 12, 2011

MOTION: Mr. Norton to approve

SECOND: Mr. Bouteiller

VOTE: 4-0

2. **PARKS CARE AND MAINTENANCE:**

A. Updates from Joe Sokul – DPW Superintendent

Mr. Sokul noted that the DPW have been working on the roads as well as the parks. He said he has the first draft of the R.F.P. for the parks programming. He said he and Ms. Martin will meet this week to finalize it. The option to extend for a three year period with the negotiated option at the end because of salary and cost changes has been included. The contract should max out and not go above a certain percentage of the existing contract. Mr. Sokul said he would have it ready for the next meeting. In the meantime, he would e-mail it to the board members.

Equipment still needs to be ordered by Mr. Gibbons. Mr. Sokul said he is waiting for the final quote on the removal of the curbing, and sidewalk in the back for the basketball court in Housatonic. This will include grading around the basketball area. Work will also have to be done on the existing hoops. They will have to be straightened out and made the appropriate height. It was also noted that the rest of the park will be looked at to see what upgrades need to be done. Mulch will have to be added this year.

Ms. Crescentini said she would contact the Grove Street Park people.

3. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Parks Commissioners seeking recommendations and suggestions from Housatonic residents concerning the maintenance and/or development and improvements to the Housatonic Playground to facilitate its use:

Ms. Smith said the committee is seeking information on what residents would like to see at the park. Rebecca Tomol-Kay noted that she would like multi use equipment for various age groups, new fencing and improved egress and access. Ms. Smith noted that photographs need to be taken and looked at for the change of egress and access.

Margaret Dietmann said she would like to see benches, maybe a bocce court. She also suggested having a visiting nurse at the school for basic questions and blood pressure readings. Ms. Smith said that would be under the purview of the senior center or hospital. It was also suggested checker and backgammon tables would be nice. Also it was suggested to put picnic tables at Old Maids. Lighting upgrades was suggested as well as putting up a gazebo on the property. Mr. Sokul advised as far as a water fountain, a new service needs to be put in on Meadow Street. A suggestion was made to enclose the porta-potty. It was suggested to put up a new playground hours notice sign on the fence. Better lighting was also suggested for the park.

4. **BERKSHIRE SOUTH REGIONAL COMMUNITY CENTER:**

A. Laura Martin – Ms. Martin had no updates for the Board.

Mr. Bouteiller made a motion and it was seconded by Mr. Norton to adjourn at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Wichmann
Secretary