

**Harvard Parks and Rec
Meeting – 2/20/2012
Old Public Library
7:30 pm**

Commission members: Mark Mandozzi, John Lee, Anne McWaters, BJ Pessia
Guests: Matt, Bill Johnson

The commissioners discussed the position of waterfront director with a potential candidate. The commissioners decided to look into the amount budgeted for the position and look at the comparable positions and pay in the area to update the salary line item. BJ will looking to advertising the position.

The new draft plans for boat ramp at pond was reviewed with Bill Johnson. The following comments and questions were raised for the WH designers.

P&R would like to reduce the number of parking spaces in boat launch area to a total of 4 (1 handicap space and 3 short term drop off spaces). All of which would be at the top of the paved area, but not as close to the beach house as shown on the draft plan. This would eliminate the 3 parallel parking places along the boulder wall. Hopefully this would allow for the design of a more interesting edge to the pavement (such as a curved edge that is wider at the bottom and narrower at the top. As opposed to the straight edge, possibly reducing the amount of pavement even more.

The P&R has the same concern with the plantings around the boulder wall that was expressed by the Conservation Comm., that kids would be playing on them and trampling the plantings. Suggestions were made to add more rugged or sturdy plants in with the grasses, such as beach plums. Also there was a question of whether the plantings would have some color variety. We would have the existing boulders removed.

On the north side of the pavement the P&R would like to have the area graded to accommodate the boat racks that have been displaced by BHP-8. Have the split rail fence replaced with something more sturdy, such as a simple wooden guard rail with 2 wide openings to allow access to move kayaks and canoes to the racks.

P&R would like to have a walkway graded from the north side of beach house to the roadway to allow for the easy movement of boats to and from the beach house to the water and the racks. This may involve the replacement or reconfiguration of the existing stonewall.

P&R would like to have a swing gate and signs installed at the top of the area to request that boats be washed before entering. Also signs to mark the handicap and drop off parking spaces.

P&R would like to have a detail of the fence surrounding BHP-8, and requests that it be kept low.

The position for boat ramp checker was discussed. The position will be filled with volunteers from the tax work off program. We will need all the hours for 2 volunteers.

John will follow up with Debbie Thompson and submit a job description to her.

Status of repairs needed at Harvard Park playground

Picnic table from Depot found in the woods in conservation land near Depot.

A request from Dan McGrath to use Pond Rd. field was discussed. BJ will follow up with him.

Mark will add the dates for Hershey track to the Park and Rec calendar and set-up the on-line registration.

A request was made to revisit our decision on the pond water ski slalom course. No one was in favor of allowing the course.

Mark mentioned that two commission seats up for re-election this year. Mark and John. Neither have made a decision on whether they are going to run for another term. Caucus is on March 10th at 7:00 pm.

Next meeting – date 3/5/2012