

**Town of Northborough
Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting
May 7, 2013**

These minutes were approved at Recreation's June 11 meeting.

In attendance: Sean McCann, Sean Durkin, Dave Rawlings, Dan Nason, Dave Robilliard, Allison Lane, Michelle Lyseth and Guest Dave Brower.

6:35pm—Meeting called to order.

6:36pm—Minutes approved. Sean Durkin (SD) made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 2 special meeting, Sean McCann (SM) seconded the motion, all in favor.

6:37pm—Guest Dave Brower. Alison Lane (AL) introduced Dave Brower, who in turn introduced himself as the 'Pickle Ball Ambassador'. Mr. Brower explained that Pickle Ball is a mini version of tennis, involving a paddle and ball on a court roughly 20' x 44' in dimension. SM asked if it is for seniors or kids and Mr. Brower said both; he is representing a group of seniors in Town that have really gotten active with this program. They currently utilize the Town Hall Gym a number of days during the week and have recently begun using part of the parking lot as a modified court at Ellsworth-McAfee park. More space is needed in order for the program to grow. AL said that the group is requesting permission to have a small storage shed at that park. Mr. Brower said his group would provide the shed, which would actually be a portable storage unit, roughly 5'x8', like a 'pod' but smaller. Mr. Brower added that a temporary fence will be needed to catch balls. Dan Nason (DN) asked if he had a location in mind for the shed? AL said it could go where the dumpster was in the past. DN next asked how the court was lined, Mr. Brower said it is lined with tape. Dave Rawlings (DR) asked if the area is roped off during play? Dave Robilliard (Robo) said that a sign has been posted saying 'no parking' during the times Pickle Ball plays. Robo will verify that the storage unit can be stored where the group has requested.

6:48pm—Recreation Report. AL said that four people applied for the open seat on the Parks and Rec Commission; SM, along with Selectmen Dawn Rand and Leslie Rutan, will interview the applicants on Monday. AL said that the 'Northborough Gets Active 5K Race and Walk' was successful, with 150 runners participating. Profits will be split between the Rotary Club and the Rec Department. Next, AL said that she met with the Friends of Northborough Rec regarding summer camp scholarships and that the funds had been allocated. Summer camp is scheduled to run 5 weeks at Melican Middle School and 2 weeks at Lincoln Street School. AL asked the Commission to help promote, by word of mouth, the upcoming Big Truck Day and Community Yard Sale events scheduled for June 15. Lastly, AL said that she has been receiving multiple requests from Eagle Scouts regarding ideas for projects. DN said that unfortunately those projects tend to require significant manpower from the DPW.

7:00pm—DPW Report. DN said that the bid opening for the Ellsworth-McAfee track improvement project is scheduled for May 15. Also, he was hopeful that the MWRA would provide a water booth at Big Truck Day to help educate the public on storm water matters. No other news to report.

7:06pm—New Business. Dave Putnam (DP), liaison to the Open Space Committee, was not present at this meeting but had forwarded AL his notes from the recent meeting he had attended. AL read his notes aloud. Next, AL told the Commission that field requests for summer are due by May 15. She said that on May 1, she had emailed Jim Forbush, President of Northborough Baseball, asking for a 'reasonable request for dates', as they had requested all fields, for each day of the week. After not receiving a reply, she emailed him again on May 7, to which Mr. Forbush replied that he wouldn't know his scheduling needs until mid-June. He requested that AL provide him with something in writing regarding previous season's field maintenance costs; he figured expenses could be divided between users. Sean Durkin (SD) said to ask Baseball to provide a breakdown of costs, these are 'known figures', which could be broken down into a per day cost. AL said that the Commission could come up with fees at the next meeting. SD said that it's just a simple formula, Baseball knows what those expenses are already. AL added that a group is requesting to play cricket at Peaslee, which is another reason why she needs Baseball's schedule. AL asked SM, as Chair of the Commission, to email Mr. Forbush at the end of the season requesting a review of the number of teams. A Commissioner should attend one of Baseball's upcoming Board meetings.

7:39pm—Old Business. No old business to discuss.

7:40pm—Motion to Adjourn. SM made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by SD and DR.