

West Boylston Parks Facilities Committee (PFC) Meeting Minutes – October 28, 2014

PFC attendees: Patrick Crowley, Robert Dunne, Gary Flynn, James O'Day, John Owanisian, Christopher Rucho, Timothy Shea

BETA Engineering Attendees: Randall Collins, Steven D'Ambrosia

- Mr. Owanisian opened the meeting at 7:02PM.

Motion: A motion by Mr. Rucho and seconded by Mr. Flynn to approve PFC minutes of October 14, 2014 was approved.

- Mr. Collins indicated he had not received a signed copy of the contract for the Master Plan – Mr. Rucho pointed out the BOS signed contract on October 15.

Update: Mr. Rucho provided an update shortly after the meeting indicating the original copy was being mailed out and a faxed copy also transmitted.

- State Representative and PFC member Mr. O'Day described the environmental bond bill that includes \$5M in funding for Goodale Park improvements:
 - Representative O'Day credited Senator Harriette Chandler for her support of the bond bill.
 - The bond bill includes many projects and was described as a competitive process.
 - Decisions concerning allocation of funds to various projects may occur in the January/February 2015 timeframe – new governor/administration adds some uncertainty to the process.
 - Mr. O'Day recommended a letter writing campaign expressing support for Goodale Park improvements.
 - A large number of letters from WB residents and boards was suggested for early December – this would include letters from the PFC, BOS, Rep. O'Day, Senator Chandler, WB students/athletes and various park users that are expected to attend the November 13 PFC meeting.
 - The letter writing campaign should target the following key decision makers and groups: Office of Administration and Finance, DCAM, the Governor's Office, and State Secretary of Energy.
 - Phone calls to decision makers also mentioned as an effective method to voice support for allocation of funds to the Goodale Park project.
- Discussion then turned to preparation for the November 13 meeting intended to gain input from park users – comments and actions (bolded) below:
 - **Rep. O'day to invite Senator Chandler**
 - **Mr. Dunne to draft a proposed letter inserting Goodale Park specific language into a template Rep. O'Day provided – Mr. O'Day will then review letter to ensure it includes key language.**
 - **Mr. Rucho to invite Banner reporter to November 13 meeting.**
 - **Mr. O'Day will provide contact names and addresses at the November 13 PFC meeting for the decision makers referenced previously**
- In preparation for the November 13 meeting, Mr. Dunne was to invite park users and request written responses (by November 10) to the following questions:
 1. What town-wide parks facilities does your program or group currently use in the town of West Boylston?
 2. Do these parks facilities currently meet your needs? If not, what are the top things you would like to see changed?

3. What specific improvements to Goodale Park ONLY would you envision that would better meet the needs of your program?

- Discussion then shifted to the development a proposed agenda for the November 13 meeting – see below:
 - Brief introductory comments from PFC chair Mr. Inderwish.
 - Rep. O'Day and Sen. Chandler discuss bond bill and letter writing campaign.
 - Mr. Collins leads a brief PowerPoint presentation depicting Goodale Park layout and the Master Planning process.
 - Mr. Collins facilitates discussion to gain input from the park users in attendance.
 - Summary and next steps (It will be important to obtain user Email addresses and encourage them to persuade many members of their groups/boards to send letters of support).
- Mr. Dunne proposed a Goodale Park site walk in the near future to include PFC members and BETA reps – date/time TBD.
- There being no further business to discuss a motion to adjourn was approved at 8:31PM.