

PLAYGROUND AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MINUTES

Date: Thursday, January 20, 2021

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Virtual

Playground and Recreation Commission
Wed, Jan 20, 2021 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (EST)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
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Attendance:

Present - Olivia D'Amour, Bill Scatolini, Marc Atkin, Steve Wickman, Stan Soja, Dave Trebbe, Bryan Litz

Absent – Jon Stogner

Guests - None

I. Meeting Called To Order.

Meeting called to order by Chairman Scatolini at 6:08pm.

II. Minutes from Previous Meetings Approved and Accepted.

Motion made by Mr. Soja to approve January 7, 2021 minutes as written, second by Mrs. D'Amour. All in favor - motion carried.

III. Bills Submitted for Approval:

- a. T – Mobile = \$63.00

IV. Budget Report

- a. None At this Time

V. Correspondence

- a. None At this Time

VI. Committee Reports.

- a. Community Preservation (Dave Trebbe – attended recent meeting).
 - i. \$700,000 in CPA funds for potential applications.
 - ii. New date set in February to apply for the CPA grants. Date moved to allow time for residents to apply after the recent Selectmen's meeting to discuss the land on Tinkham Road.
- b. Selectmen Liaison (Bill Scatolini)
 - i. Mr. Scatolini spoke with Selectman Bob Boilard to inform him that the Recreation Commission would be sending a letter this week requesting to utilize Memorial School as a Community Center.

VII. Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated 48 Hours in Advance of Meeting.

- a. None At this Time

VIII. Old Business.

- a. Memorial School
 - i. Mr. Litz met with Nick Breault (Town Administrator) and Tom Sullivan to discuss Memorial School. Both let Mr. Litz know that the intent was to Lease the property. They are awaiting active participants to submit for a lease agreement. No specific date has been set for lease application submission.
 - ii. Mr. Litz was notified that if the Recreation Department wanted utilization of the property that a formal request should be submitted.
 - iii. Mr. Scatolini brought up the first letter sent to the Town on 1/29/18, in regards to Memorial School, in which no response was received by the Recreation Board from the Town. A new 2021 utilization request letter was asked to be submitted by a Selectmen following a recent walk through at Memorial School with that individual Selectmen. This letter is dated 1/14/21 and will be submitted on 1/21/21 per the Selectmen's request.
 - iv. Mr. Scatolini mentioned the letter sent on 1/29/18 and the current letter proposed by the Recreation board are a direct response from town residents about ideas and locations for recreation.
 - v. Mr. Scatolini, along with the Recreation Board Members, feel there could be a lot done up at the Memorial School location for community utilization (Skating Rink, Dog Park, Pickle Ball Courts, etc...).
 - vi. Mr. Soja recommended if residents are serious about utilizing the property for Recreation then they need to attend the Board of Selectmen's virtual meeting and voice those concerns.
 - vii. Mr. Litz reached out to John Pearsall, Town Planner, to see what other parcels of land were available in town to evaluate putting a dog park, skating rink, and pickle ball courts. John told Mr. Litz there was limited space in town for any additional recreational spots. A resident recommended looking at the Wilbraham Middle School's old tennis courts location as a potential for Pickle Ball and the end of the Wilbraham Soccer Fields parking lot for a potential dog park. The board discussed these two locations as challenging alternatives since play could be limited or not permitted while kids are in school from 7:30 – 2:00 pm.
 - viii. Mr. Scatolini presented the current letter for submission to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Scatolini then made a motion, "For the new letter dated 1/14/21 and previous letter dated 1/29/18 to be submitted to the Board of Selectmen requesting utilization of Memorial School as a Community Center." – second by Mr. Soja, All in favor - motion carried. The letters will be sent over on Thursday 1/21/21 to the Board of Selectmen.

IX. New Business.

- a. None at This

X. Adjournment.

- a. Motion made by Mr. Scatolini to adjourn at 6:36 PM.

