

October 11, 2023 Boxford Rec Com Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

7:30 pm

WELCOME

Members present: Lisa Donahue, John Rowen, Kimberly Putney, Jeff Hixon, Tom Stevens

QUORUM - yes

VOTING ITEMS

Meeting minutes - August 22, 2023

Motion Jeff

Second John

Passed unanimously

Kimberly will forward to Robin for posting to website

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND SCHEDULED DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Johnson Field Playground Updates

22nd Oct Rick Farmer from BOH connected with MA DEP regarding playground area

If we plan to dig footings we need to notify DEP, file an application, close playground, do test pits. If trash is found, notify DEP and they would recommend covering and no digging. If trash not found, still notify, then proceed.

Weston and Samson post closure contractor- will help file for test digs with DEP

If no footings planned (minimal/no digging) test pits not required

Removal of existing structures- ok to remove old equipment and footings, if trash is found, notify DEP. This would result in permanent closure and no building

Chris Olbrot, DPW, could dig a few test pits by DEP standards

Committees involved made aware and no concerns

Wetlands have been flagged. Now awaiting a survey by Donahoe. Flagged wetlands need to be 75 feet from building.

Equipment can be scrap metal, carousel may be sold as surplus equipment- ask Select Board

Funding may come as two warrant articles- one for CPC funding for site prep

Second warrant article for playground equipment and installation

Consider making a sketch to direct DPW where to dig test pits

\$119,754.16 playground estimate from last year which does not include installation Total cost with installation expected to be \$145,000-190,000

These estimates include the surface- Engineered wood fiber with mats (mats make structures ADA accessible).

Apple Festival Recap

We had a table this year with art activity for children

Trails and Sails Recap

22-23 attendance on historical hike, well received, trails well maintained

Park Program Update

Lisa reached out to Mr Coogan after last meeting to see how we could be helpful, have not heard back yet

Town report should include an accounting of cost, income, participation

Fall Newsletter

Posted on website and library

Liaison updates

CPC- deadline for funding as discussed before, Dorman land progress

BTA/BOLT- Next event is Oct 29 Pumpkin Hunt, crafts, donuts and cider located at Cargill Field (4 way intersection near Cole), advertised at Cole and facebook and website. Parking at Cole.

Camp Sacajawea- closed for the season, needs grounds cleanup- sometimes this can be a Scout activity

Tennis/Pickle Ball courts- Maybe in the future we will purchase necessary items then send bills to DPW. Courts don't officially close, but snow will not be removed during

winter. No more info on vandalism- Tom will follow up with Chris Olbrot regarding a report via phone call to DPW office.

BAA- Fall Softball season, Basketball registration > 600 kids

Fields have been wet this Fall, mowing has been difficult but DPW doing their best

Volunteer assistance for cleaning dug outs, raking leaves, etc has increased

Playgrounds- no new responses on reporting form

Things for committee members to think about:

West Boxford Musical Festival- West Boxford Improvement Society

occurs in Summer, food, beverages, arts & crafts, games, fire department

West Boxford Winter festival, arts crafts, food, fire department

10 Elm activities, including weekly Wednesday walks co-sponsored by BTA/BOLT and COA

Bylaws and strategic planning for the future

Mission statement and definition of scope/activities

What can we do for a winter event? Moonlight snowshoe, groom a section of trails to increase use, joint Arboretum activity

Next meeting Wed Nov 29th at 7:30pm

Motion to adjourn Jeff

Second by John

Adjourned at 8:29pm