

Medfield Parks and Recreation Minutes

Pfaff Center 10/01/08 7:30 AM

Attending: COMMISSIONERS: Mel Seibolt, Toby Burrell, and Tom Caragliano.
DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND RECREATION: Jim Snyder
PROGRAM COORDINATOR: Kevin Ryder ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Paula Carroll
COMMUNITY MEMBERS: Jean Bourdon, Jack Bourdon, and Kip Mercer.

1. Motion: Approve 9/17/08 Minutes. Vote: Motion carries (3-0).

CHANGE: Note that agenda item #3, "Update on Skate Park" has a sentence change:

REMOVE the following sentence: *No matter what the cost, the burden to raise all the funds for building and maintenance is on the citizens of Medfield because the town of Medfield and Parks and Rec will not be providing any funding for creation and future maintenance of the park.*

REPLACE with the following sentence: *The burden to raise all funds for the skate park is relegated to the interested citizens of Medfield.*

2. Unfinished Business - Skate Park

Jean Bourdon has been attempting to fundraise for the proposed skate park, but interested citizens are reluctant to donate because an official announcement of locale has not been released by Parks & Rec. Jean is asking the commission to publish an article in the local press to publicize the exact location of the proposed skate park. Toby ascertained that before this can happen, the commission needs to visit the new proposed locale (next to the bleachers) for final approval. Then Kevin Ryder will work with Jean to write an article for submission to the local press. Steve Farrar will also work with Jean to do a cost analysis and outline of phases to ultimate final completion. Toby reaffirmed that the commission is committed to providing property for and supporting the skate park.

Jean also informed the commission that the original estimate of approximately \$8,000 for the proposed skate park only covered the cost of the concrete slab. The equipment that would be placed on the slab, fencing, labor, maintenance, etc. will cost approximately an additional \$80,000 to \$90,000. However, this expense will not be incurred all at once: the park will be completed in phases, using the existing old equipment from the prior Medfield skate park, then upgrading as fundraising progresses.

3. Hinkley Pond Site for Proposed New Building

Tom Caragliano is not in favor of the Hinkley Pond location for the proposed new building:

1. Traffic impact will be too much for Brook Street and Green Street.
2. Future expansion (i.e. adding onto) of the building will probably not be possible at this site.
3. The over 40 age group cannot be accommodated.
4. Ice on the pond is a potential drowning hazard for children.

Tom believes the old state hospital Odyssey House property that is next to McCarthy Park is the best location, especially for future building expansion potential. Toby responded that expansion was never a variable/concern in the quest to find the best location for the building and a location should not be chosen based on the ability to expand/add onto the building.

Kip Mercer is not entirely opposed to the location, but he has several concerns:

- Traffic
- Water runoff
- Lights
- Future expansion of building
- Parking lot
- Building mechanical noise pollution
- The elimination of trees
- Building exterior appearance
- Park character
- Water safety
- Property value impact
- Increased teenage partying

Also, Kip is wondering what the cost of bus transportation for summer camp would be if the building were located up McCarthy Park. In order to research and respond, Toby requested that Kip e-mail his concerns to Parks & Rec.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 AM.

Next Meeting: Wednesday evening, October 15th at 7:30 PM.