

**City of Concord Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes from Jan 18, 2017 Meeting**

Committee Members: City Counselor Gail Matson, City Counselor Candace Bouchard, Lauren Fielder, Mary Miller (Chair), Chiara Dolcino, Althea Barton

Staff Members: David Gill, Parks and Recreation Director, Heather Shank, City Planner, Laura Bryant, Recreation Supervisor.

Guest: Nicholas Kotkowski from Ward 7

Meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm. David welcomed Nick back who is interested in serving as Ward 7 rep.

Mary made a motion to accept the December meeting minutes, Candace seconded. Approved

Agenda Items

New Business:

Updates on Grades 7 – 12 girls basketball

Laura Bryant talked about the registration process for several of the youth basketball players. One person came in and registered almost 40 refugees for our middle school and high school leagues. This person has been very instrumental in assisting refugee parents sign their children up for sports, very important for the new refugee families in town.

However, this season, just a few days prior to the league start, the person pulled all the kids out of the program which resulted in the girls league being canceled. Laura asks the committee for suggestions on how to improve the registration process and help parents understand the commitment for youth sports.

Mary Miller suggested that we require parents/guardians to come in and register in person. Group also talked about trying to work with the schools to get information out to parents. Lauren also suggested going to back to school nights when the schools usually have folks there to help. Another issue that Laura mentioned for the players that had been pulled was transportation to the schools after hours and on weekends for practices and games.

Mary made a motion to have Parks and Rec only accept registrations from parents/legal guardians and to work with the schools before each sports season to help get the word out. Seconded by Lauren. Approved.

CIP Review

Handout of the CIP was given at the December meeting. David highlights the projects for next year and some new ones that should be included.

Main project in FY 18 is Phase one of the Terrill. Currently listed a 50% GO bonds and 50% donations and grants. VHB the consultant will be at the February RPAC meeting to review plans. Committee agreed this is a very exciting project and long overdue. David recommends keeping this project in FY18 – committee agrees

White Park. Monkey Around Playground is also currently listed as a FY18 project with 50% City GO Bonds and 50% donations. David also recommends keeping this project in FY18 as the playground is over 25 years old. David recommends keeping this project in FY18 – committee agrees.

Rollins Park Trees; David reminded the group the trees are scheduled to come down this winter. Currently FY 18 has some money to begin replanting the area. David recommends keeping this project in FY18 – committee agrees.

David highlighted the new items for Park CIP:

Rolfe Park: repairs to the two tennis courts that are currently not useable. Might be good location for full time outdoor pickleball courts.

Rollins Park Wall Repointing: Phase 1 will start in spring 2017 as funded. Will require several more phases to finish.

White Park. Parking lot repairs

Memorial Field: Formal inspection of baseball and football grand stands.

Mary indicated the improvements this year at Merrill Park are great. She asked David if there is any safety related items that are currently not listed in the Park CIP. David indicated other than what was disused as new items he does not see any items at the present time.

Old Business

- **Community Center Update:** David discussed the city is in the process of selecting a company to be the construction manager for the project. At this moment, the department is still planning to move back to White Park first week of March. Construction should start spring of 2017.
- **Trees at Rollins Park:** City Council at their December meeting agreed to remove the red and white pines at Rollins Park. Staff will work with the city forester to have trees removed before the end of this winter.

- **Terrill Park:** contract awarded. David informed the committee that VHB out of Bedford, NH has been selected for final design for the new Turf Field Complex at Terrill Park. David indicates VHB will come to RPAC at their February meeting to review concept and timeline. Currently Phase 1 of the Turf Field Complex is funded in FY 18 Budget.
- **Skate House Update.** City Council has approved the design for the new skate house located in the current location. Staff will work with HL Turner for final design. Final design will go to planning boards March meeting. As soon as planning board has approved design we will be starting fundraising efforts.
- **Update joint Golf/RPAC:** David talked about the two meetings of the joint committee. He is pulling details together with the hopes of a draft report completed in February with the report presented at the March 2017 City Council meeting.
- **Update joint Arena/RPAC:** David highlighted the first joint meeting that was held. Mary liked the format and thinks it was a great idea to have joint meetings. Lauren indicated before too much time is spent on park needs/wants they need to confirm what the Arena needs/wants are. Committee thinks moving the fire training out of the area and a master plan for both areas should be completed prior to the parking lot being redone. However, they are open to learning more regarding the long term needs of the arena. Next meeting is Monday, January 30 at 5:30 pm at the Heights Community Center.

Respectfully submitted by Parks and Recreation Director, David Gill