

**City of Concord Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes from January 18, 2018 Meeting**

Committee Members: Amelia Brock, Nick Kotkowski, Councilor Gail Matson, Mary Miller, City Councilor Candace White Bouchard, Marilyn Frazer, Chiara Dolcino & Althea Barton

Staff Members: David Gill, Parks and Recreation Director, Laura Bryant, Recreation Supervisor, Chris Jacques, Grounds Superintendent and Heather Shank, City Planner

Meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm by Chair Mary Miller

Councilor Bouchard made a motion to accept minutes from the November 2017 meeting, was seconded, and approved. (There was no meeting in December, 2017)

New Business:

Heather Shank – shared an update about the upcoming project to update the zoning ordinances, which was last done in 2001. The City of Concord will be working with consultants out of Austin, TX to restructure character based codes in order to make redevelopment easier in the future. This will be a several year process with the focus on the first year being downtown and the nearby neighborhoods. There will be a city wide meeting on February 7, 2018, the Concord Monitor will be writing an article and the consultant team will develop an engagement plan as well as a website as a means of communicating progress to the community.

David Gill shared with the group that the City of Concord naming committee asked RPAC to consider placing an historical marker at the intersection of Canal Street and McCoy Street Twin Bridges Park in Penacook. The naming committee declined to rename the park. After a discussion Gail motioned for staff to contact the state to find out if in fact this is an area that warrants a historical marker, was seconded and approved.

David Gill and Chris Jacques reviewed all CIP projects and highlighted any changes. RPAC had extensive discussions about upcoming projects and was excited about moving forward with Terrill Park. A further discussion ensued regarding the fitness equipment to be installed at Rolfe Park in FY19, Althea suggest changing the location to Keach Park as having it adjacent to the new community center would allow for better monitoring of use. Chiara motioned to change the location in FY19 of the fitness equipment to Keach Park, seconded and accepted.

Heather Shank brought up the use of Recreation Impact fees and wanted the group to be aware of discussions about possibly eliminating such fees in the future. The group asked to be kept aware if the discussions progress with staff.

David Gill gave a brief update on Concord Parks & Recreation social media sites and how well received the quality of life posts are. Also how the department has really been able to expand our reach through social media.

Laura Bryant updated RPAC on current programs including winter basketball in which we have over 400 participants, Winter Carnival, Black Ice and the upcoming first annual Nordic BKL Ski Race at Beaver Meadow Golf Course. Additionally she spoke about meeting with all the instructors from the Community Ed program and reported all instructors seem excited about teaching at the new community center. She hopes to have an outline of the fall schedule to share at the next meeting.

David Gill talked about how the new soccer field is being used at Keach Park. With the addition of the field last spring, the department is getting additional requests for rentals of the soccer field. Councilor Bouchard asked if it would be possible to keep the field open for the neighbor two nights a week and all day on Sunday. Marilyn reminded committee members that staff added the field based on community feedback last spring. David indicated he would be able to block off two nights and all day on Sunday to allow the soccer field to be used by Keach Park neighbors. Motion was made by Councilor Bouchard, seconded by Councilor Matson and was approved.

Gail motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:50pm Marilyn seconded.

Respectfully submitted by
Recreation Supervisor, Laura Bryant