

**City of Concord Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes from Sept 27, 2012**

Attendees:

Committee Members: Mary Miller, Glenn Mathews, Jamie Bryant, Jason Brooks, Lauren Fielder, Chiara Dolcino and City Councilor Candace Bouchard.

Staff Members: David Gill, Laura Bryant, Chris Jacques and Gloria McPherson

Guests: Mary Shea from Making Strides, Bill Hickey from H.L. Turner Group.

Meeting was called to order at 5:34 pm by RPAC Chair, Mary Miller.

New Business:

Request for a Memory Walking at Memorial Field – Making Strides

Mary Shea presented a plan to build a walkway at Memorial Field as a fundraiser for Making Strides. They would like to build a walkway where people can buy bricks and the money would go to Making Strides. Cost of bricks would be \$200 and square \$400. Mary brought a map showing possible location and overall design. Making Strides would be willing to set up a maintenance fund for the city for ongoing long term maintenance needs. Gloria indicated the plan may need to go to Planning Board for final approval and offered for Mary to talk with her more about their process. Chiara asked if we had a Master Plan for the Memorial Field, David Gill indicated we do not have a plan and stated he thinks we should have one approved prior to the walkway being built. Lauren asked how the city will handle allowing another group to make money off city park land. David indicated that Legal, City Administration and City Council will review process.

Candace made a motion to accept walkway concept as long a trust is set up for ongoing maintenance and the walkway can be included in the master plan, Glen seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Mary Shea asked what the next steps are. David said he will write a report for the December City Council meeting including RPAC recommendations. David will also make a request for City Staff to develop a Master Plan for the facility with the goal of having plan finished in spring 2013.

H.L. Turner Group donation for full design services for new multipurpose building at White Park.

David reviewed the donation from H.L. Turner Group for full design of new building at White Park. The value of this donation is \$40,000 and was approved by City Council at this month's City Council meeting. Bill Hickey reviewed the plan and possible timeline. With this donation the city will receive full construction plans for the facility. The new building was part of the 2004 approved Master Plan for the park. David asked for a member of RPAC to be part of the committee to help review the designs with the goal to present the a design to City Council at their January meeting and have full construction plans in the spring of 2013. The committee thanked Bill and his company for this wonderful donation. Chiara Dolcino volunteered to be on the committee representing RPAC. David indicated the current committee members are: David Gill, Gloria MacPherson, Chiara Dolcino and a member of the Friends of White Park.

Dame School and new Community Center Update

David indicated the City and School District are still negotiating for the transfer of ownership of Dame School. Chiara asked why it was taking over a year to agree on an agreement and how will this affect the timing of the project. David indicated City Council approved \$500,000 (FY13) for design of new building and a goal to fundraise over \$200,000 in donations this year. He indicated this will most likely delay the project as we cannot move forward with design and fundraising efforts until we own the facility.

New Seasonal Brochure

Laura highlighted the new programs in the brochure and informed the committee the new brochure will be delivered to school next week.

Meeting adjourned 6:35 pm

David Gill