

**PARKS AND RECREATION AND
ACQUIRED FACILITIES COMMISSION**

Regular Meeting

Monday, January 6, 2014

Council Chambers, Wolcott Town Hall

7:00 p.m.

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MINUTES

Vice-Chairman Kirschbaum called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice-Chairman Jack Kirschbaum, John Curley, Steven Lagasse, Carl Dambrauskas

MEMBERS ABSENT: Chairman Ronald Cordeau, Robert Sherman, and Harry Najarian

ALSO PRESENT: Brian Smail, Town Resident

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- **Regular Meeting – December 2, 2013**

Upon **MOTION** by Steven Lagasse, seconded by John Curley, it was unanimously voted to **approve** the minutes of the December 2, 2013 Regular Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE (on file):

1. **P&R Expenditure Report as of 12-19-13 (Dept. 521)**
2. **Program Support Allocation Summary as of 12-19-13**
3. **Copies of checks sent out to the organizations that have been allocated program support to date**
4. **Acquired Facilities Financial Reports as of 12-19-13 (Dept. 30)**
(separate email attachment)

TAXPAYERS' TIME: (Limited to Items on the Agenda)

No taxpayers came forward.

STAFF REPORTS/ PURCHASE ORDER REQUESTS: {Dam Inspectors; Woodtick Recreation Area Director; P&R Program Director}

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There were no reports or requests for purchase orders.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS: *WALKING TRAIL*

Mr. Lagasse reported that Mark Possidento has filed a preliminary wetlands questionnaire with DEEP and also just submitted some initial trail drawings that he has not had a chance to review yet. Mr. Possidento will be out of town until February 2nd.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Discussion Regarding Dog Park

There was no discussion regarding the above item.

2. Discussion Regarding Programs & Procedures

There was no discussion regarding the above item.

3. Discussion Regarding Dredging

Vice-Chairman Kirschbaum noted that there is no new information. Chairman Cordeau can update the Commission at the next meeting.

Mr. Dambrauskas questioned that if they ever got a contractor who was interested in doing the work, would it be the contractor's or the Town's responsibility in pulling and paying for all of the necessary permits. He noted that if the contractor was responsible, it probably would make it less attractive if the job ended up costing them money. It was noted that Chairman Cordeau may have an answer; they will discuss at the next meeting.

4. Discussion Regarding Chestnut Hill Valves

There was no discussion regarding the above item.

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5. Park Maintenance Items

There was no discussion regarding the above item.

6. Program Support Allocations

There were no program support allocation requests.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business on the agenda.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

Old Business:

- Discussion Regarding Dog Park
- Discussion Regarding Programs & Procedures
- Discussion Regarding Dredging
- Discussion Regarding Chestnut Hill Valves
- Park Maintenance Items
- Program Support Allocations

TAXPAYERS' TIME:

1. **Brian Smail, of 131 Boundline Road** came forward and expressed his strong opposition to the extension of the walking trail. His property and the Town's property are very close and asked if he will be liable, like someone in Middlebury, if someone is injured on his property. He next spoke about the following concerns: maintenance of the trail, wetlands and flooding issues, policing, safety and security, and a decrease of his property value. He added that the existing trail is not maintained, there are dogs off of their leashes, and it is a lawsuit waiting to happen. He also stated that he never cut the trees on his property as was stated at the last meeting in December. Mr. Smail also expressed that he was unhappy about not being informed by phone or mail as to the progress of the walking trail; he said it was promised that he would

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be. He also stated that it was incorrect when the Police Chief stated that there were no incidents of violence on any walking trails in the state and advised that a rape occurred at a trail in Enfield. He added that he has applied for a permit for an electric fence repeatedly to no avail.

Mr. Lagasse explained that tonight he just received for the first time preliminary drawings of the proposed trail. Up until now the Sub-Committee has just finalized the survey and done a site-walk. It was noted that there will be a public hearing scheduled at some point for the purpose of community feedback, however, that will not take place until they have an actual proposal for people to see.

Lengthy discussion continued regarding the pros and cons of the trail. Mr. Smail continued to express his opposition to it for many reasons. Commission Members explained that these monies were voted for in a referendum and the Town Council has charged the Sub-Committee with getting this project completed; they are doing the best they can. It was noted that the Town Council are the ones in charge of the funds, so Mr. Smail would be better served to address his concerns with them. They also advised him that he is welcome to continue to attend their meetings to keep himself apprised of the status.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No Executive Session was held.

At this time, Vice-Chairman Kirschbaum noted that John Curley has decided to not remain on the Commission for another term, at which time he thanked him for his many years of service. He added that it has been a pleasure to work with him and they appreciate his insight and contribution to the Commission.

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ADJOURNMENT:

Upon **MOTION** by Carl Dambrauskas, seconded by Steven Lagasse, it was unanimously voted to **adjourn** the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

APPROVED:

Elizabeth Gaudiosi
Commission Secretary

Ronald Cordeau, Chairman
**Parks & Recreation & Acquired
Facilities Commission**