



Town of Acton

Recreation Commission

Minutes

**ROOM 121
ACTON TOWN HALL
7:00 PM**

DATE: JANUARY 9, 2018

ATTENDEES	Present were Edward Holcomb, Commissioner, Stephen Trimble, Commissioner, Joe Will, Commissioner, Barbara Willson, Commissioner, Cathy Fochtman, Recreation Director, Melissa Rier, Recreation Coordinator, Mary Lou Repucci, Recreation Office Manager, and Karen Martin, Resident.
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TOPIC: CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

DISCUSSION	Karen Martin reported on progress made by the Dog Park Committee. Charged by the Board of Selectman with determining whether or not Acton needs a dog park, the Committee will present its initial findings to BOS at its January 22 meeting. The Committee has researched Acton dog ownership, other dog parks and the benefits of dog parks generally to animals as well as humans. The Committee is also in the process of presenting its findings to the Land Stewardship Committee, the Commission on Disabilities and the Council on Aging Board. It is seeking community input through an online survey which thus far has received a strong positive response. Information was distributed at the December 4, 2017 Special Town Meeting and at the West Acton Oktoberfest last fall. If BOS approval to continue is obtained it will proceed with the next phase of its charge.
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CONSENT AGENDA

DISCUSSION	December 5, 2017 minutes
ACTION ITEM	December 5, 2017 minutes accepted as amended, 4:0.

ACTION ITEM REVIEW FROM DECEMBER 5, 2017 MINUTES

DISCUSSION	None to report.
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TOPIC: FEE DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION	Melissa Rier presented a proposed restructure of fees for NARA Summer Camp and for NARA Pavilion and Bathhouse Pavilion rentals. The Commissioners reviewed her recommendations to the Town Manager and came up with a revised draft. The Commissioners voted to accept the revised recommendations, 4:0.
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TOPIC: WINTER CARNIVAL

DISCUSSION	The Commissioners were asked to volunteer to assist at Winter Carnival on Saturday, February 3, 4pm – 7pm, and for Island Night at the Recreation Center on Friday, January 19, 6:30pm -- 9:30pm.
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REPORTS:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Rail Trails – An informational kiosk has been erected at NARA in the corner near Rex Lane.b) NARA Sports Pavilion – The Town has settled with the Office of Michael Rosenfeld architects over terms of the transfer of the Sports Pavilion plans. OMR will turn over the plans and will pay a negotiated sum to the Town to compensate local architect, Andrew Brockway. The next step is to finalize the contract with Brockway.c) T.J. O'Grady Skate Park – The fundraising banner is in place.d) Playgrounds – The Jones Committee has planned several fundraising activities with a goal to raise \$50,000 by fall.e) Community Preservation Committee (“CPC”) – Cathy Fochtman will talk to the CPC at its January 11 meeting about funding applications for the Skate Park expansion and for NARA Park performance improvements.f) Community Gardens – Morrison Farm is completely rented for 2018. Plots are still available at North Acton and Hebert Farm. Cathy and Mary Lou, along with Wei Sun from the Health Department, have a meeting scheduled for January 25 at Acton Housing Authority to provide Hebert Farm plots through scholarships to Windsor Green residents. Wei will provide translation services for Mandarin-speaking residents.
DISCUSSION	

NEW BUSINESS/DISCUSSION: NONE TO REPORT.

MEETING ADJOURNED TIME:	Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.
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**Supporting and referenced documentation relating to these minutes are available on the Docushare site: <https://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-1985>*