

CHARLOTTE RECREATION COMMISSION.

Thursday January 3, 2019, 6pm - Charlotte Town Hall - Regular Meeting -- Minutes - PAGE ONE

Meeting was called to order at 6:04 P.M. Bill Fraser-Harris, Greg Smith, Craig Reynolds, Rich Ahrens, Heather Manning, Rodney Centeno, Bill Pence and Judy Hill were in attendance. Bud _____ and Justin Mansfield were also in attendance. A quorum was present.

2.0 Adjustments to Agenda - none

3.0 Public Comments and Communication - none

4.0 12/4/18 minutes were presented and approved unanimously

5.0 Discussion/Action Items

5.1 Tiller Foundation 2018 funding was received to proceed with upgrading playground equipment. \$20,000 was deposited into capital reserve fund, earmarked for playground.

5.2 Justin Mansfield from Pettinelli and Assoc joined commission in discussion of playground options. Commission to put project out to bid to three companies per town rules. Discussion included:

1. Pros and Cons of using existing location of playground vs moving it West into trees. Placement of playground in wooded area would increase cost of project due to removal of some trees and tree roots in order to install new equipment. It would also interfere with existing disc golf course. Playground area could be expanded by removing old fencing and combining two existing areas.
2. Playground needs to be ADA compliant with accessible pathways of wood or stone dust.
3. Components of playground to be geared towards inclusivity, multiple use, challenge/growth, a range of age appropriate stations and play. Justin mentioned possibility of installing generation swings (that seat two people facing one another) and Ninja warrior component (that challenges older kids). Playgrounds are generally designed for kids up to age 14.
4. Importance of contact with Nature, of kids playing in woods. Agility components could be placed in wooded area.
5. Re-using parts of existing playground. Wood is 50+ years old and not advisable. D-rings would be problematic. Slide could be used though 9' structure would have to be built to accommodate slope. Dome structure in small playground could be relocated.
6. Possibility of including outdoor fitness equipment to engage adults and caregivers, which could be incorporated in design. Justin mentioned State and National funding for such equipment and suggested commission could seek grant writer to apply for grant funds.
7. New playground at Waldorf school in Shelburne. Bill Frasier Harris met with Rick Wilowby to discuss process they went through to create a progressive playground and underscored the importance of using professional playground designers.
8. Commission to continue playground plans without creating a secondary playground committee.
9. There is an existing standing water issue. Water will need to be diverted, stone added and a French drain installed.
10. Budget for playground is \$75,000, installed. Commission and community volunteers could assist with installation.
11. Justin was asked to provide commission with a few options.

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- 5.3 Parking Lot Expansion. Commission discussed many aspects of expansion including:
1. Based on plans provided by Distinctive Landscaping there could be a net increase of 60 spaces with potential for more.
 2. Previous discussion of expanding North section with increase of 20 spaces, including removal of existing trees, at a cost of \$9,000.
 3. How far North do we want to go? Do we keep existing road? Do we want to generate more revenue? If there is more use, then more parking is needed.
 4. Could entrance and attendant be moved North to ball field entrance?
 - Creating a driveway (parallel to road) to new parking lot located North of existing lot
 - With six dedicated handicap parking spots and drop off of small water crafts at South entrance
 - With a short circuit drop off for better access to playground
 - Carts could be bought and utilized to move gear
 - Bud to draw up idea
 - Bill Frasier Harris to get price quote to move parking lot
- 5.4 \$30,000 allocated to capital reserve fund by Select Board
- 5.5 Commission to request additional \$500 to hire Distinctive Landscaping to draw up revised ideas
- 5.6 Shoreline Enlargement. Bill Frasier Harris met with Island Excavating. Estimate is \$38,000 to enlarge shore line area west of Lake Road, north stairwell to south stairwell. Island Excavating would cut into bank, insert large blocks, cover with stones to gain 6' - 8' of grassed area. State permit is required. Commission agreed to move forward and create budget.
- 5.7 Weather fluctuations have been very vexing with efforts to flood town rink. Rink at present is closed.
- 6.0 Commissioner Comments - none
- 7.0 Next Regular Meeting - February 12, 2019
- 8.0 Meeting was Adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Minutes approval signature: _____

 3/12/19

Bill Frasier-Harris, Chairperson