

TOWN OF AYER PARKS COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes of February 23, 2017



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Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm. by J. Mayo

Members present included: Chair Jason Mayo, Vice Chair Dan Graham, and Member Richard Durand

Members absent included: Clerk Eric Hebert, Ayer Parks Director Jeff Thomas, and Member Sarah Gibbons

REVIEW AGENDA/ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- J. Mayo called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.
- A discussion of the up-coming Town Elections and the open seats on the Commission were discussed. D. Graham said he will not be running for re-election. R Durand said he is planning to run, and plans to pull papers on Tuesday.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

- The minutes of January 19, 2017, were approved by a unanimous vote following a motion to accept by D. Gram and a 2nd by R. Durand.

FINANCE:

- **Capital Projects:** J. Mayo and J. Thomas plan to attend the March 1 meeting of the CAPC to talk about the Commission's CPAC application asking for a grant to cover the costs of building the perimeter path at Pirone Park. Once the Commission receives CPAC approval for the project, it will be put before the voters at the 2017 Spring Town Meeting. Once it gets Town Meeting approval, construction will begin this summer (FY2018).
- **FY 18 Budget:** Commission's level-funded budget proposal with the addition of line-item increases including a 2 % COLA for lifeguard and assistant wages; 5% increase for building & grounds upkeep, services, and supplies; and a step increase for the director's wages as indicated on the budget sheet has been accepted by the Finance Committee.
- **Bills:** The Commissioners agreed to authorize payment of the monthly bills, and two warrants were signed. They also agreed to authorize the signing of J. Thomas' timecard.

COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS:

- **Pond & Dam:** No report. (J. Mayo), though it was noted that an RFP for pond management has been put out in conjunction with the Conservation Commission.
- **Signs:** No report. (E. Hebert and T. Nolan not present)
- **OSRC:** No report. (J. Mayo)
- **Master Plan:** The next meeting of the Master Plan will be at 6 pm Tuesday, February 28. (J. Morriss—E. Hebert, Not Present).
- **CPAC:** J. Mayo and J. Thomas attended the February meeting to present plans for construction of the perimeter path at Pirone Park. Following the meeting, J. Thomas completed the application forms for Community Preservation Funding which will be presented at the CPAC meeting March 1. It was also reported that a request for RFP has been published to get bids to make the old fire station weather-tight. (R. Durand)
- **July 4:** Parade plans are on track. (R. Durand)
- **Complete Streets:** None. (E. Hebert)

SOCCER:

- **ASYS:** No Report (S. Gibbons—not present)
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BASKETBALL:

- **ASYB:** No Report (E. Herbert, AYBS Reps):

- **AYB:** (J. Thomas—not present): The season is winding down. The Shirley Parks and Recreation Department is being investigated by the District Attorney about some financial irregularities involving travel expenses.

TOWN REPORTS:

- **Spring Programs:** (None)
- **Community Garden:** Sheila Carmen, who lives at 62 Pleasant Street, sent an e-mail indicating an interest in helping to organize a Community Garden. There was some discussion about the suitability of allocating space down by the basketball court where there is plumbing available and accessible parking. There was some thought that this might be a suitable project for an Eagle Scout. There is plumbing down there, but raised beds would need to be built and suitable soil would need to be procured. Sheila should be asked if she wants to be the project leader.
- **Dog Park:** J. Thomas attended the last Dog Park meeting. The next step is for the interested people to form an oversight committee.

NEXT MEETING:

- The next meeting will be held at 7:30 pm Thursday, March 16.

MEETING ADJOURNED: D. Graham motioned to close the meeting at 7:55 pm and R. Durand^{2nd}. Commission agreed unanimously to close the meeting.

Minutes recorded by Jane Morriss

Approval Date 3/23/17

Parks Commission Chairman  (Jason Mayo)