

Hopkinton Recreation Commission

Crandall House

Minutes of Meeting

(DRAFT)

Date: 03/01/2021

Recreation Director: Mary Sawyer

Commission members present: Zafar Agha, Sherry Ryan, Matthew LaBounty and Christine Cook

Purpose of the meeting: Regularly Scheduled Recreation Commission Meeting

Meeting called to order: 5:35 pm

New Business

Elaine Caldarone of the Wood-Pawcatuck Wild and Scenic Rivers Stewardship Council was present to share the background of the organization. The council is made up of representatives from the 12 towns that make up the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed. Ms. Caldarone shared the mission of the council, including their work with the towns and their citizens to educate people and protect the watershed. The council is interested in partnering with the Recreation Commission and Town of Hopkinton, to enhance outdoor experiences along the watershed.

The Stewardship Council is interested in enhancing the space at Briggs Memorial Park, to include parking, picnic tables and access to the Ashaway River.

Zafar, raised questions of how trash would be handled with the suggestion that it be a carry in/carry out requirement. In addition, Zafar asked how many cars the parking would accommodate.

Matthew LaBounty made a motion to move forward with steps required to begin planning the improvements to Briggs Park. Second motion made by Sherry Ryan. All in favor. So voted 4-0.

A request will be made to the Town Council for permission to enter into partnership with the Wood-Pawcatuck Wild and Scenic Rivers Stewardship Council.

Recreation Director's Report:

Crossman Engineering developed a design for the drainage needed at the new playground site. The expense for plan development is \$4,265.01 and will come from the existing playground budget.

Progress on the new playground has been slow for a variety of reasons, including COVID-19 and changes among staff in town. The council has requested that Mary Sawyer asks for an update.

A \$40,000 grant was awarded to the recreation department through the RI department of Commerce, "Take it Outside Initiative". The grant was used to purchase supplies for local businesses including plexiglass, tents and patio heaters. In addition, the recreation department purchased a 40' x 20' tent with sides, heater and furniture that will be used for camps and community events.

A grant was awarded by The RI Office of Healthy Aging. This funding will be used to remove the carpet from the first floor of the Crandall House and refinish the hardwood floors underneath. Mary was in the process of requesting quotes for the work.

RI Senate and House of Representative grants were awarded for a total of \$3,500 and will be used to install a wooden guardrail along the parking lot of Crandall Field.

Due to COVID-19 senior programs are still on hold.

Soccer, volleyball and yoga were all held in fall of 2020.

Spring 2021 programs planned include soccer, field hockey, tee ball, yoga, archery and babysitting.

Plans are underway for summer 2021 programs including Summer Camp and Hoop Academy.

Programs that include the use of the Chariho School gyms and facilities are still on hold pending approval from the school district. This includes the proposed Hoop Academy that is planned for summer 2021.

The Recreation department is considering a spring concert/food truck event to be held at Crandall Field.

Next meeting Date- April 5th, 2021 at 5:30pm Crandall House

Motion to adjourn was made at 6:49pm by Matthew, seconded by Zafar. So Voted 4-0

Minutes respectfully submitted by,

Christine Cook-Recreation Commission Secretary