

Merrimack Parks & Recreation Meeting Minutes

March 21, 2012

Town Hall Meeting Room

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm.

Attendees:	Chris Christensen	Lorraine Lessard
	Janet Cormier	John Schneider
	Jackie Flood	Jenn Thornton
	Laura Jaynes	Tom Thornton
	Sherry Kalish	Lynn Wenz

Absent Drew Ploss

New Business:

- **February minutes** — Motion made by Janet Cormier seconded by Tom Thornton to accept minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously
- **Director's Report**
 - NATICOOK DAY CAMP Registrations are ongoing. The job openings are posted on the town website. On the home page, look at the right hand column and click on Position Openings. Applications can be down loaded and submitted to Human Resources.
 - PARK SIGNS - donation from the Rotary The Rotary has completed their presentation to be given at the next Town Council meeting. Peter Giacapuzzi will be the presenter.
 - EASTER EGG HUNT Saturday March 31st at 11:00 am. Merrimack Friends & Families is co-sponsoring the event again this year. Their volunteers will arrive at 9:30 and would love any help we can provide. If you can help set up the fields and direct our guest from 9:30 – 11:00 (or any part of that) it would be a huge help.
 - Families coming to enjoy the Easter Egg Hunt should arrive by 10:45 to allow time to safely park their vehicle and find the field for their child's age.
 - WATSON PARK FUND Paul Micali reported the account has \$1,979. Of that amount \$638.92 is set aside for picnic tables and \$122.45 is for grills. Leaving an available balance of \$1,218.
 - Currently the porta potty is costing \$105 per month. Paul also has three donations totaling \$302.26 that need to be accepted by the Town Council.

Other notes that I have went with Watson Park:

Dog Subcommittee--This subcommittee was broken into 3 groups--fund raising, operations, and rules and regulation. The fundraising group made plans to fundraise at the Rotary Rabies Clinic on April 14th, hold a raffle for 6 months' supply of dog food, and sell home made dog biscuits and dog toys. The rules group were reviewing the emails that Sherry received from dog park/parks and recreation groups across the county to establish commonality with the rules for the park. The operations group is in the process of researching the amount of fencing that needs to be purchased, the cost per standard and crossbar that will be required and the best ground cover medium for the park.

Pavilion Subcommittee--There are (5) members of this subcommittee. To date, the Rotary has raised \$10,000 for the structure; they will also incorporate a share of the grant money that had been received by the town for the Watson Park upgrades. They anticipate that the pavilion will be approximately 900 sq ft and expect the foundation to be poured by summer. At this time, the School Dept., did not want to make a commitment for the use of the pavilion because they also had the structure at Grater Woods available for their use.

Agriculture Committee--John Lastowka was going to the Town Council to request the installation of a pipe for the water that would go under the roadway from the hydrant to the community garden.

- Bus Trip We had a full bus for the bus trip to the Boston Flower and Garden Show on Thursday, March 15th!
- Summer Concerts are booked from June -August 31
 - One Tuesday night concert from 7-9:00 on July 3rd.
 - One Thursday night concert on Aug 9, 39th Army Band
 - All other Concerts will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6-8:00 pm
 - Still need to finalize the last couple dates and will send the schedule as soon as it is complete.
- Community Garden John Lastowka is working with MVD to improve water access for the gardeners. He will be taking a plan to the Town Council for review and possible acceptance. If all goes well, water will be available at 3 points along the perimeter of the garden so people won't need to carry the water across the road.

Updates

- Seniors club- Lorraine spoke of upcoming events for the spring and summer: including a trip to the Newport Playhouse on June 28, Boston Harbor/Tall Ships on July 2, and a trip to the Cape Cod Canal for a Dixieland Jazz Cruise on July 29th.
- MYA- John spoke of the Merrimack HS boys won their Division Title. Most of the players were members of the MYA. Don Nevers will be replacing Tim Kachmar as the MYA rep.
- Town Council - Jackie asked that we be allowed to collect donations for Watson Park. The Town Council asked that the committee go before them when we reach \$5,000. They will need to accept the money before it can be spent.
- School Board— Jenn Thornton notified the committee that this would be her last meeting. She will not be running for another term with the School Board.

8:10 motion to adjourn made by Chris Christensen seconded by Tom Thornton Motion passed 9-0-0

The next meeting will be held **April 18, 2012 @ 7:00** at the Town Hall Meeting Room. All interested parties are welcome to attend.