

Merrimack Parks & Recreation Meeting Minutes

June 20, 2012

Town Hall Meeting Room

The Meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm.

Members	Laura Jaynes	Tom Thornton
Present:	Chris Christensen	Lorraine Lessard
	Jackie Flood	Phil Straight
	Shannon Barnes	Don Nevers
	Holly Lewis	Sherry Kalish

Absent: Lynne Wenz

Public attendees: Joseph Parker, Eagle Scout candidate

New Business:

1. Eagle Scout candidate, Joseph Parker, presented his Eagle Scout Service Project to the Committee, in which he will construct a pergola approximately 20 feet long, 12 feet wide, and 12 feet high. He submitted extensive paperwork for his project. He is looking to the Committee for support of his plan. He will also build 2 picnic tables to rest on a cement pad beneath it. This shaded picnic area is part of the Watson Park Master Plan. After some questions and discussion, on a motion by Chris and seconded by Shannon, the Committee voted to fully recommend that he continue with his plans 9-0-0. Joseph will proceed with his project plans to the Town Council. He hopes to complete this pergola by the end of the summer. Laura Jaynes will write a letter of recommendation to the Town Council.

2. The May minutes were approved as amended: Director's report: Park Signs at Twin Bridges, not Watson Park. Delete No election of officers. Under Watson Park "and sell homemade dog biscuits and delete "was made."... by Chris Christensen. Updates: add MYA Rep. Don Nevers.

3. Director's Report:

- a. Naticook Day Camp: Registrations are increasing. Week I is full with 122 campers signed up. There have been some donations to the Camp which include an air hockey game, These need to be accepted by the Town Council. Check the website for other Summer Programs.
- b. Summer Concert series: These are going well with bookings from July 3rd to August 31. This schedule is on the Town Website.
- c. Skateboard Park: Opened on April 20th. See website for park hours.
- d. Community Garden: The garden is doing very well and looks beautiful.
- e. Park Signs for Twin Bridges: This donation, made by the Merrimack Rotary Club, was approved by the Town Council at a May meeting.

Old Business

- 1. Election of Officers: After some discussion and nominations, this year's Officers will be:
 - a. Chairman: Tom Thornton
 - b. Vice Chairman: Chris Christensen
 - c. Secretary: Laura Jaynes

It is wonderful that we have had a full committee represented at the last several meetings.

The full committee is as follows:

- d. Town Council Representative: Jackie Flood
- e. School Board Representative: Shannon Barnes
- f. Senior Club Representative: Lorraine Lessard

- g. MYA Representative: Don Nevers
- h. High School Representative: Holly Lewis
- i. Member: Phil Straight, chairman of Pavilion subcommittee
- j. Member: Lynne Wenz, chairman of Dog Park subcommittee
- 2. Community Yard Sale at Watson Park: Jackie Flood spoke of the upcoming Community Yard Sale at Watson Park on Saturday, June 23rd, from 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. If committee members are able to help it would be very much appreciated.
- 3. Watson Park
 - a. Pavilion Subcommittee: Phil reports that his group is still working to decide on a design. They are leaning toward the Timber frame design. He would like to get the bid process completed ASAP. He reminded the Committee about the upcoming 4th of July events that Rotary is sponsoring and encouraged committee members to attend/help out, as they have contributed much to the Pavilion.
 - b. Dog Park Subcommittee: Lynne reports that the goals for the Dog Park are now looking to finish in the Spring of 2013. The subcommittee is preparing for the upcoming Watson Park Yard Sale. They have come up with many fundraising ideas.
- 4. Wasserman Park Revenue Ideas: a short discussion was held. This item was tabled.
- 5. Room Nominations: This idea came to the P & R committee by Jackie Flood. The goal of this project was to help eliminate confusion of the town meeting rooms and felt that P & R could help make recommendations to the Town Council. Jackie shared further information about the nominations. There are about 6 people nominated at this point. Sherry will email the nomination info she has received, removing the names of the people who submitted the nominations. The item will be discussed further at the September meeting.

Updates:

- a. Merrimack Senior Citizens Club: Lorraine reviewed the many activities that she has been organizing for the Seniors Club at the John O'Leary Community Center. All of these activities are posted on the Town's Website. Some upcoming highlights include:
 - June 28th – Newport Playhouse
 - July 2nd - Tall Ships, Boston Harbor, lunch and a sailboat ride
 - July 29th –Cape Cod Canal for a Dixieland Jazz Cruise
 - Aug. 7th - Interlake's Summer Theatre in Meredith, NH
 - Dec. 12th – Holiday Luncheon, Lincoln, NH
 - Dec. 31st – New Years' Eve Day Trip, Castleton Ballroom, Windham, NH

Other events being planned by the club members include a Western Theme Party on August 6th and the annual October Fall Fair. The Senior meetings are held every Monday from 1:00 – 2:30 pm @John O'Leary Community Center.

- b. **MYA:** New representative Don Nevers reports that all spring and summer sports are going well especially with great weather. Baseball playoffs have ended. There will be an all stars game at Martel field. There is a Babe Ruth summer league. He notes that the Reeds Ferry #2 field is holding some water. Adam Jacobs will be contacted. Football registration is already closed with practices starting on August 1st. Pop Warner will be adopting new regulations. There is a golf tournament on Aug. 29th.
- c. School Board: New representative, Shannon Barnes reported that there will be a joint meeting with the School Board and P & R to discuss the management of the O'Gara Drive recreational area.

- d. **Town Council:** Jackie already spoke about the Community Yard Sale and the Town Meeting Room nominations.
- e. **High School Rep:** New Representative Holly Lewis asked about the expectations of her role on the committee. There was a brief discussion to help her.

Other:

Chris Christensen reminded the Committee that we need to set up budget priorities for the Fall budget. He also requested that Ice Skating be put on the agenda.

Lorraine said that it would be easier to submit the annual Field Reviews in the fall, after the Spring/Summer use. She felt it would give us better information about the fields and their conditions. The committee agreed that September would be better.

There were no comments from the public as no one was attending.

This meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm with a motion by Chris and 2nd by Tom.

As usual, there is no P & R meeting scheduled for July. The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, August 9th at 5:00 pm for a cookout at Naticook Day Camp and to attend the Theater show.

***A special meeting has been called for Wed. July 25, 2012 @ 7:00 pm at the Town Hall Meeting Room.**