

Merrimack Parks and Recreation Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, 06.10.15
Wasserman Park, Function Hall, 116 Naticook Road
6:30pm

Attendees: Chris Christensen, Michelle Cushman, Julie Poole, Rick Greenier – MYA, Cinda Guagliumi – School Board and Maureen Hall – Senior Citizens Club

Parks and Recreation Director: Matt Casparius

Absent:

Excused Absent: Laura Jaynes, Jackie Flood, Christine Lavoie, Dan Ricker, Melissa Kowalewski and Dan Dwyer – Town Council

Public:

Start time: 6:35pm

1 Open Meeting/Introduction

2 Approval of minutes from May 20, 2015

- Michelle Cushman made the motion to accept the May Meeting Minutes
- Maureen Hall 2nd the motion
- 6-0-0 motion passed

3 Old Business

- Update from the Friends of the Merrimack Dog Park - Matt Casparius
 - Fundraising Efforts To Date
 - Bark for Park Contest ends 06.10.15
 - If Merrimack makes it to the next phase then the Dog Park Committee creates a video
 - In the past month the Committee has raised \$411.00 & spent \$423.00
 - \$23504.90 is the balance of May 1st
 - Upcoming Events/Activities
 - Table for Ribfest
 - Table for 4th of July Fun Day

4 New Business

- Review for Park Inspection Visits - Matt Casparius handed out Park Maintenance Needs document – see attached handout for the list of what each facility needs:
 - Abbie Griffin Park – Maureen Hall
 - Bishop Field – Maureen Hall
 - Gibson Memorial Complex – Julie Poole
 - O’Gara Drive Recreation Area – Rick Greenier
 - Martel – Julie Poole
 - Twardosky Field – Dan Ricker

- Twin Bridge Park – Cinda Guagliumi – still need
- Veterans Memorial Park – Jackie Flood
- Wasserman Park – Parks and Recreation Committee
- Watson Park – Christine Lavoie
- Weston Park – Dan Ricker – still need
- Elections for 2015 – 2016
 - Chair – open
 - Vice Chair - open
 - Secretary - open
 - Cinda Guagliumi made the motion to nominate Chris Christensen for Chair, Laura Jaynes for Vice Chair and Michelle Cushman for Secretary
 - Rick Greenier 2nd the motion
 - 6-0-0

5 Director's Report - Matt Casparius

- Giane Cruz has been hired for the position of Parks and Recreation Secretary
- Update on Summer Program Registrations
 - Camp opens on Monday, June 22nd
 - Registration is still on going and numbers are looking good at this point
- 4th of July Update
 - Approximately 25 groups have signed up for the parade with lots more expected in the coming weeks.
 - Volunteers needed – for 11am for Saturday, July 4th
- Summer Concert Series start Wednesday the 17th and runs through August 5th
- Divers spent time controlling the milfoil at Wasserman Park. It is expected that they will return in late July to check on things.

6 Organization Reports

- Senior Citizens Club - Maureen Hall
 - June 24th – Martha’s Vineyard (Fox Tours)
 - July 8th – Interlakes Summer Theater – “West Side Story” with Lunch at The Bob House
 - July 28-29th – Overnight trip to Boothbay Harbor and Cabbage Island Clambake
 - August 12th – Foster’s Clambake & The Bobby Darling Show
 - September 23rd – Venus De Milo Restaurant & The Beach Boys Tribute Show and sign up started on May 18th
 - December events are still being discussed
- MYA - Rick Greenier
 - Softball, soccer, baseball and some cheering in season
 - Football is open for registration
- Town Council –Dan Dwyer – absent
- School Board – Cinda Guagliumi – School Board
 - Last day of school is June 19th
 - Graduation is June 13th

7 Comments from the Public - was nothing

8 Comments from the Committee

9 Future Meeting Dates

- No July meeting
- Wednesday, August 19th at 7pm

10 – Adjourn at 7:23pm

- Maureen Hall made the motion to adjourn at 7:23pm
- Cinda Guagliumi 2nd the motion
- 6-0-0 motion passed

Following the meeting, Matt Casparius let the committee on a tour of Wasserman Park to review the progress that has been made recently in building repairs and general park updates.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Cushman

Town of Merrimack
Park Maintenance Needs Review
June 2015

Veterans Park:

- A granite slab, I'm guessing about 2 feet by 4 feet and several inches thick, is leaning against the chain link fence near the memorial. It says that the firemen gave a gift, maybe meaning the fencing, someone would know. It should find a good spot.
- The framework for some metal equipment, maybe bleachers, is still in the woods laying on edge. It's unsightly in such a nice park.

Martel:

- No entrance sign?
- Trim on concession stand is coming loose
- need more garbage cans
- trash pick up more often
- Scoreboard is worn
- fence needs mending
- brush cut back

Gibson:

- No entrance sign?
- more barrels
- clean up brush
- visitor seating (far side of field)

Abbie Griffin:

- Add new bushes around Gazebo
- Low patches in lawn need fill & grass seed
- Some tree trimming needed

Bishop:

- Fill in low spots on field
- Fill potholes at entrance

Watson Park:

- Trim/cut back shrubs around the info sign
- Where the asphalt meets the gravel - please add more gravel to meet road and eliminate pot holes
- Add 1 more trash can
- Walking path maintenance
- Better signage from the north side would not be a bad idea, or something to think about
- How many trees were planted? it doesn't seem like there are many there now.
- The fence in the back, its been rolled back to create an opening.
- Old rail road tracks lying around in the back.

- Lots of trash/debris from fireworks towards the back.
- Birds nest in gazebo
- Some water run off damage in center of park, across from parking lot, creating a gully.
- Boxwood? Bushes by Arbor need some tlc, turning brown.
- Could benefit from weed wacking.
- Flower beds by road need TLC, lots of weeds
- Dog house for hose needs a new roof
- New trees need TLC
- No ADA Accessible pathway to Pavillion or ADA Picnic Table
- Plant in bed by entrance need tlc and weeding.
- Grass is mostly crab grass and lots of patchy bald spots

Twardowski Field:

- Paint both foul poles on softball field
- Repair fence in center and right field
- Trim back weeds growing through fence
- Remove broken birch branch in the woods near the soccer field
- 2 Benches in the woods near the old backstop - what are they there for? if no us please remove.
- Turf areas could use weed control. Overseeding and better overall care.
- Add 2 more trash cans.

Twin Bridge:

- Wood chips need to be raked out by swings & slides
- Missing pipe in the music play section
- Southeast section – split wood repairs needed