

**Dracut Recreation Commission
Minutes of October 3, 2016
Dracut Town Hall**

Present: Mike Parent, Jamie Desmarais, Gordy Scott, Steve Talbot, George Malonis, Ray McCann, Steve Gomes, Recreation Director Lori Cahill and Recording Secretary Cyndy Alexander

Absent: Denis Kennedy, Shannon Mitton-Talbot

Opened the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Community Input: None

Guest Speaker: Betsy Ware, Community Development Director: Dadak Field: Ms. Ware spoke to the Commission about some land that was acquired by the town, specifically, Dadak Field. She notes that this field is now in rough condition, mostly scrub brush and was originally intended to be used as a Recreation field but has never been used as a Recreation field. Ms. Ware proposed to present Article 18 at the next Town Meeting to use Dadak Field as a Recreation space but in the meantime she wants to find a cost effective way to clear the field and keep them cleared so it can be used in the future. Ms. Ware would like to suggest to have the land farmed temporarily to get the land cleared and keep it from getting overgrown as the town is not currently financially able to use it for recreation purposes. Ms. Ware would submit an RFP to lease out the land for a specific number of years to someone who would farm the land if the Recreation Commission agrees. Mr. Scott made a Motion to recommend to approve proposed Article 18 for temporary lease for farming purposes at Dadak Field. Mr. McCann seconded the Motion for discussion: would want a 3 year lease with the option to extend another 2 years, but no longer than 5 years. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes of September 12, 2016: Motion made by Mr. Desmarais to approve the Minutes. Motion seconded by Mr. Talbot. Motion passed unanimously.

Review of Financial Accounts: Ms. Cahill reviewed the accounts for September through October 3, 2106. No problems were raised. Motion to accept financial report by Ray McCann. Motion seconded by Mr. Malonis. Motion passed unanimously.

Correspondence: Letter from Board of Health. All Town fields are now non-smoking. Ms. Cahill had tried for several years to get this approved. Signage will go up in the Spring at all fields.

Action Items from previous meetings:

DPW Schedule for Aeration of Fields: Ms. Cahill confirmed with the DPW Director that they have an aeration/over-seed schedule for all fields in town and they are following that schedule. Ms. Cahill asked that as the Recreation programs are done using fields to let her know so they can work on those fields. The irrigation system is still on for over-seeding purposes.

Field Use Fees: Ms. Cahill spoke with Mr. James Duggan, Town Manager, about the process to utilize Field Use Fees. Mr. Duggan stated he would not approve the funds being used on anything that is already being done by the Town such as aerating fields. Mr. Duggan would want the Recreation Commission to vote on a project to use the funds on and submit that request to Mr. Duggan for approval. By law, the Field Use Fees will not be turned over to the Town's General Fund. The Field Use Fee account will be capped at \$25,000.00.

Dillon-McAnespie Video Camera: The video camera is in process of being repaired. IT Department is working on it.

Skateboard Park Update: The Skateboard Park will be closed as of Columbus Day. Ms. Cahill will report to the Town Manager all stats of usage and spend for 2017.

Committee Reports:

- **Boys Basketball:** Mr. Scott stated they held their Board Meeting yesterday. They are still taking Winter Rec Basketball registrations until November 4, 2016. Adult Basketball opens on November 13, 2016. Travel try-outs were last week and registration numbers were very low. Permit issues are being worked on. Coach Brendan Cripps was told by Ms. Cahill to email all parents on his roster that the balance due is \$160.00 not \$135.00 as previously stated. Mr. Scott said that practices will begin next week.
- **Girls Basketball:** Mike Parent states that Girls Rec Winter Basketball registrations continue until November 4, 2016. Issues with gym permits being worked out. Mr. Parent asked Ms. Alexander if there is a way to get organized calendars of all permits. She explained she was already working on this and will share with the Commission when they are up-to-date. Mr. Talbot asked if we could possibly use the DHS gym on Monday, October 10, 2016 for Girls Basketball try-outs. Ms. Alexander will check on that and advise.
- **Baseball:** Mr. McCann informed the Board that Fall Baseball is going well and no issues.
- **Softball:** Steve Gomes states they had a general meeting and elections on September 28, 2016 and all Officers will remain. They have two tournaments remaining. On October 29th they will do field clean-up and shut down.
- **Ski:** Ms. Mitton-Talbot was not present but Ms. Cahill explained that Skiing will be held on Saturday night's beginning in January 2017 the week after the MLK holiday. Requests for ski bids were sent out last week to both Bradford and Nashoba.
- **NFL Flag Football:** No problems.
- **Volleyball:** Greg Hall is running this program. It starts this week. Being held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at the RMS. They also have Mondays booked but may release those dates if not needed by Volleyball. Will advise Basketball if that day becomes available. The RMS is the only gym that has the nets and poles in the floor.
- **Wrestling:** Jamie Desmarais states they are all set. He needs the mats brought in by the DPW on the week of 11/14/16 for cleaning and set-up. They start the week after Thanksgiving.

New Business: Lacrosse: Mr. Desmarais asked if any Boys Lacrosse funds were used for the Girls Lacrosse expenses. Ms. Cahill said that a very small amount was used. Mr. Desmarais states that he has received complaints from parents that their perception is that the Girls Lacrosse funds are being used for the Boys Lacrosse expenses so he wanted to double check that with Ms. Cahill. Ms. Cahill also asked that they do not add extra teams this year for Spring Lacrosse because we are already short of field space/field time.

Old Business: None

Motion made by Mr. Scott to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded by Mr. McCann. Motion passed unanimously.

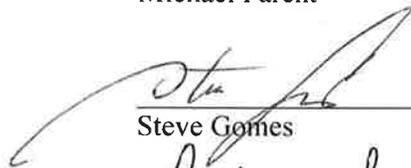
Meeting adjourned at 7:56pm. Next Meeting is Monday, November 14, 2016 at 7:00pm.



Michael Parent

George Malonis

ABSENT



Steve Gomes

Denis Kennedy



Gordon Scott

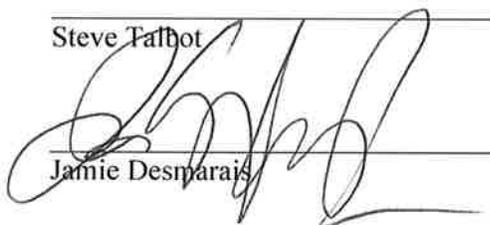


Ray McCann

ABSENT

Steve Talbot

Shannon Mitton-Talbot



Jamie Desparais

Recording Secretary
Cyndy Alexander