

Parks and Community Programs Advisory Committee
September 22, 2015
4:00 pm
Mason-Motz Activity Center

Meeting Called By: Lucky D'Ascanio

Note Taker: Andrea Mittleider

Attendees: Lucky D'Ascanio, Melanie Collins, Dan Smith, Sally Bitan, Dominic Scette-Ducati, Andrea Mittleider

Secretary's Report:

Correction of two typographical errors in minutes from June meeting

Projects Update:

OceanView: Under consideration are three proposals to repurpose and/or add on to the Plummer building to house senior apartments, including some affordable housing units (the larger the addition, the more affordable housing units will be included). Funds may be available as part of Tax Increment Funding (TIF), including funds to improve the Mason-Motz facilities.

Casco Bay Youth Hockey (and surrounding environs): Letters have been placed on the storefront. Foundations are complete. Electricity is the next aspect of project to be completed. They anticipate opening the ice in November. The Windham Correctional Center will be re-siding the Village Park maintenance building and will also scrape and repaint the Snack Shack at Legion Field. The roof of the Village Park maintenance building will also be repaired.

Riverpoint Bridge: Banding of birds is ongoing, including saw whet owls. A plan is also in place to reintroduce monarch butterflies. The area is populated by milkweed, the primary food source of monarch caterpillars.

Parks Division Report:

All but one of the summer seasonal employees have concluded work. The final employee will stay through October. The summer was highly productive, with a number of successful projects completed, including landscaping at Town Hall, installation of dog waste bag disbursement stations, limbing of dead trees and branches at various parks, clearing of invasive species, clearing of Walton Park parking area and signage to reduce illegal bonfires, mowing, and rerouting and hardening of the cross country trails at Community Park.

The parks crew is gearing up for winter.

A proposal has been made to unify the language used in local towns' ordinances relating to dogs in park areas. Animal control officers provide mutual aid to Yarmouth, Cumberland, and Falmouth, and it would be helpful for all three towns to have the same rules. Specifically, dog walkers should walk no more than three dogs at a time, and dogs should be on leash within 300 feet of a trailhead.

FCP Report:

The fall brochure is out.

Falmouth has partnered with a master naturalist for a Great Maine Outdoor Weekend event, including a guided walk at the Nature Preserve on September 26.

Mason-Motz:

The Senior Citizen Advisory Committee met on September 9 and sponsored a “Muffins and Mingle” event to welcome ideas for the building from senior residents.

A proposal was made to turn the conference room into a senior citizen room.

The committee is researching programs and services that are available to seniors locally and considering what could be offered to seniors here. A comprehensive report outlining the committee’s findings is planned.

Old Business/New Business:

None.

Next Meeting:

October 20, 2015