

Parks and Community Programs Advisory Committee
Minutes, 3/20/18, 4 pm
Mason-Motz Conference Center

Meeting called by: Janet Dye

Note Taker: Janet Dye

Attendees: Lucky D'Ascanio, Ian Duggan, Andrea Mittleider, Joel Glass, Amanda Stearns, Janet Dye, Jeff Mason

Secretary's Report:

Motion to approve and accept February 2018 meeting minutes passed.

Welcome:

The Parks & Community Programs Staff Spotlight this month was Amanda Stearns. Amanda has transitioned to the position of Open Space Manager (20 hours/week) replacing Bob Shafto as the contracted Town Ombudsman position. Amanda has served as Falmouth's Community Development Director for 11 years and transitions to this half-time job in May. Meanwhile Amanda is still assisting Town Council regarding land use while working on open space issues. Amanda gave an overview of her duties and noted that the volunteer Conservation Corps are accepting applications for volunteers help.

Amanda updated the group regarding three grants that have currently been funded. The Land Trust became third party on these grants holding the conservation easements:

- 40 acres in North Falmouth (from 4 parcels), that was bought with money fronted by the town, was funded by a Lands for Maines Future grant and those funds were only recently released by the state after a lengthy waiting period.
- 65+ acres of McClean parcel bought with grant funding from the US Forest Service
- Suckfish Brook II parcel off of Mast Road bought from McDermott family with grant funds as well.

Amanda also spoke about the Naturalist Series run out of River Point Conservation Area by the Biodiversity Research Institute. Some of the programs will be highlighted in the Community Programs brochure coming out in April and the entire series can be found on Facebook pages of BRI and FCP and will be posted at Mason-Motz Activity Center.

The Conservation Commission and the Town Council are working on guidelines for fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides. Town properties and some town facilities as well as roadside in North and West Falmouth have been treated to eradicate invasive plant infestations. Public input and awareness workshops will begin in June.

Parks Division Report:

Jeff Mason reports that the winter season plowing and up keep continue. With the extended winter weather, spring cleanup will be shorter and intense. It will be helpful to have one of the summer staff that will begin work in April.

Lucas Tree has volunteered to cleanup downed trees and prune the Packard Cemetery as part of their Arbor Day demonstration.

Community Programs Report:

Summer Camp continues to look for a Day Camp Director and counselors. The Summer Brochure will be printed and out the beginning of April.

Planning is under way for a Senior "Senior" Prom in May. Denise Macaronas and Kim Doyon are planning and organizing the event.

Ocean View is preparing to complete the landscaping plan for the Town Green between Lunt and the Plummer and Mason-Motz building. Timing and final plans are still being determined at this point and are weather dependent.

Next Meeting:
April 24, 2018 at 4pm, Mason-Motz Activity Center