12-15-2020 Princeton Parks and Rec

Present: Gina Polewaczyk, Matt Lindberg, Faith Pistrang (Princeton residents)

Kari Sledzik, Terry Hart, Kelton Burbank, Jennifer Greene, Travis Parisi, Scott Morris, Ed Carlson

Move through agenda

Motion to approve Minutes

Amendment – Ed’s last name incorrect. Kari to send amended minutes

Approved

Meeting agenda change to move Sawyer Playground discussion to front so East Princeton residents attending can leave after this discussion if they wish (change approved).

Sawyer Grant Proposal:

Sawyer Playground is how it’s deeded to the town

Summary of attached grant proposal. Grant opportunity was found by town admin and Wayne to encourage community meeting spaces, linked by sidewalks. Sawyer field plan with walking path, trash cans, gazebo, etc to redesign this space. Capital available for project if we move quickly, can be underway in the spring and possibly completed by July.

Skating rink and park benches included as well. Those items are portable so they can move elsewhere if appropriate. State funded, someone in town has helped prepare the plan. No reason not to move forward but will meet with East Princeton, note that East Princeton would not have veto power.

Gina: Will grills be included? Serious concerns with the grills and some concern with a gazebo as well. Will trash be picked up in a timely manner? In general there’s enthusiasm with the trails (prefer walking, skateboarding, and biking allowed too), skating rink, but some concerns with the gazebo and against the grills

Matt L of Leominster road. Second what Gina said, this should be a community resource with space for kids. Grills seem outside of that

Kelton – Track was for little kids’ bikes, not necessarily adult bikes, i.e. “little traffic.” Skating rink is currently at Krashes as an add-on, so it’s not part of that proposal but this may enable us to move it there.

Matt L – also some consideration of space and how big the amenities are/how much room they will take up. Gleason Rd connection to Main st and the sidewalk comes closer to it. If the grant is about getting people out and about and getting access to open spaces, would it be possible to make a connection to that path/road versus using the intersection?

Ed - We don’t own that road anymore. Terry confirms it’s discontinued.

Kelton – this may fit closely into the trail connection project with Open Spaces, so this may fit into the open spaces work/Trail around Princeton

Gina: can we call it Sawyer Playground? There’s some push you can have based on the reason the family deeded the land (referenced park/playground projects in surrounding towns)

Revert back to previous agenda from this point forward…

Ed’s report:

Princeton Youth Soccer – paid about $1744 for last time they paid. We should consider using the same permits they used in the past.

Baseball League – Uses of the field next year. They did $3000 worth of work in Fall 2019 and requested use for next year. They would like to use it free of cost based on sweat equity.

AAU Team Northeast Baseball – interested in renting the baseball field.

Kelton – Gentleman from Gibbs can help you determine that

$30 a day was suggested.

Kari: some research showed $100-$250 per day for tournament use

Leagues ran their own concessions, they collected money,

Health code and/or tax law considerations with food sales?

People have been tubing at Krashes – moving the goals away for safe use of the hill

Town didn’t plow the lots because they had previous long overtime shifts. They will do it on a regular work day.

Lighting contest – drive around town and check it out. Entrants below:

209 Mirick

4 Goodnow

61 Hickory Dr.

27 Sam Cobb

20 Sam Cobb

22 Esty

203 Hubbardston Rd.

120 Sterling Road

41B Main street – shared driveway – ok to drive down for look.

21 Ball Hill Road

Scott’s Report (fund raising):

Speaking with people about a fundraising event. Travis has been giving a hand. Barbeques, fun run/5k of some sort.

Appears to be interest in town from people Scott knows. One contact is a manager at a restaurant so there may be options to host a fund raising event. Can pull together a decent crowd to raise some money and awareness about parks and rec. Linking event and fund raiser together.

Need something to help track donations and funds collected. Ed to check with Sherry on ideas, possibly a CPA if necessary.

Travis’s Report (Event Planning):

Exploring hosting an event to kickstart fund raising efforts. Need to get some work done on establishing a 401C3. Kari has some experience and knows others who may be able to advise. Set up a follow up. High level of coordination between Scoot and Travis on overlapping issues

Kelton’s Report (Trail/Open Spaces Synergy):

Kelton on open space committee meeting earlier, encouraging survey participation as a priority.

Terry’s Report (Needs Assessment):

Needs assessment. Could use 2 hard tennis courts and pickleball. Pickleball is very popular.

Need a better web presence and better communication with community

Kari’s Report (Field Management):

Data collection a work in progress, went over list of who I’m reaching out to. 5 Wachusett towns and some others, basically if they’re not playing here where are they going? Creating spreadsheet of info, partially complete.

Jennifer’s Report (Seminars/Community Center):

Liase with the library, historical commission, cultural council, Princeton arts, senior center. Hold off on hosting programs or gatherings until post covid, but making contacts and setting things up in the meantime.

Ed has some follow up items on maintenance, sending out to everyone for individual reply.

Meeting adjourned.