

**RECEIVED**

*By kwilber at 3:14 pm, Mar 04, 2020*

**Town of Northborough  
Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting  
November 5, 2019**

*Unanimously Approved at the March 3, 2020 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting*

**In attendance:** David Putnam, Mark Awdycki, Faith Stevens, Scott Charpentier, David Robillard, Tracey Cammarano, Allison Lane and Michelle Cilley.

**5:35pm—Meeting Called to Order.**

**5:36pm—October Minutes Approved.** Tracey Cammarano (TC) made a motion to approve minutes from the last meeting in October. Faith Stevens (FS) seconded, all in favor.

**5:37pm—Recreation Report by Allison Lane (AL).** AL reported that 2020 spring field scheduling is done for the middle school fields. There will be less field rentals at Melican Middle School in the spring since a portion of those fields will be offline until well-established grass is in place (the area regraded after the lighting project). BEST Soccer and Hit Quarters will again be renting space, but there will be limited availability for them until the offline field is available again. In other news, AL reported that Recreation had a full day camp today with 34 kids since it was a Professional Development Day, in addition to running a half day basketball program at the High School with 56 kids.

**5:41pm—DPW Report by Scott Charpentier (SC)** said that the painting was done at the Memorial Field snack shack. The next task is to seal the bathroom doors. Interior demolition will be done so as to have access from the garage. Some plumbing and electrical work may be left. Regarding the lighting project at Melican Middle School, SC said that the panel will be installed next week, with final testing over the next two weeks. The offline field (mentioned above) will need two full growing seasons, it will be hydro seeded twice in the spring so SC is optimistic that youth football will be able to use the fields later in the year. Next, the Town Common project is almost complete; pavers went around the memorial today, stone dust was put down to keep them in place, and with sod being put down, the project will be ‘substantially complete’ by week’s end. The monument will be opened for viewing tomorrow, and the American Legion will perform a flag raising on Veteran’s Day. SC stayed under budget and is in fact returning \$304 to the CPC. Lastly, he said that the Selectmen were developing a policy for public usage.

**5:55pm—New Business.**

**Bicycle Use on Ellsworth-McAfee’s Walking Trail.** AL said that several incidents were reported to her of pedestrians being run into by unchaperoned children riding bicycles on the park’s walking path. AL said that it not an acceptable use of this path. In previous years, exercise stations existed at areas around the walking path. It was paved a few years ago for the safety of the public, having originally consisted of stone dust. Additionally, the path was slightly widened a few years ago so that people could walk side by side. DP asked: is there a sign stating that bicycles aren’t allowed? AL: no there is not. MA: what ages are the children? AL: young, although in the past there was an issue with an adult bicyclist riding very rapidly around the path. AL said that there should be a sign to point to. DP suggested two signs: walking path only, and no bicycles. FS said that she had noticed Facebook commentary about ‘moms being upset about banning bikes at the park’. FS responded online that she was bringing it to the attention of the Parks and Rec Commission at the November meeting. SC: bicycles are not allowed on sidewalks, sidewalks are for pedestrians, the two don’t mix. Discussion followed about language for the sign; the group agreed that signage should say that it is a walking path only, handicap accessible.

**6:11pm—Old Business.**

**CPC Applications:** AL said that she has submitted applications to the CPC for both Assabet Park improvements and a proposed Disc Golf course at the Senior Center. Mark Awdycki (MA) asked how long the process is to hear back from the CPC. AL said she will meet with them in November and December, and maybe hear of a decision in January.

**Dog Park:** DP asked about the status of the Dog Park project. SC said that there has been correspondence between DCR and the Town resulting from a difference of opinions from separate entities.

**6:25pm—Motion to Adjourn.** MA made a motion to adjourn, seconded by TC, all in favor. The date of the next Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting will be scheduled at a later time.