

~~DRAFT~~ --Northfield Community Park Committee Meeting Minutes--~~DRAFT~~

April 4, 2016
7pm, Town Hall

Present: Robin Conley, Kathy Coutu, Julia Blyth, Joseph Stacy, Gwen Trelle, Kate Rossiter, Mindy Nadolski
Absent: Cynthia Mead

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Robin Conley

1. Minutes: The February minutes were accepted with spelling corrections. Robin/ Gwen. 5-0-1. The March minutes were approved as written. Robin/ Kathy. 4-0-2.

2. Report on Pierson Road land. Robin met with the Recreation Commission about leasing Pierson Rd fields. They were apprehensive about a short-term lease but opted to keep the option open.

3. Update on the NMH land by the river. On 3/13/16 Robin, Jerry Wagener, and Jeremy Underwood met and walked the "lower field" by the boat ramp. Jeremy was optimistic about fitting several baseball fields there, and Jerry pointed to possible drainage solutions. We discussed "order of operations" with the PARC grant. *Julia will call Melissa to clarify if we need to have grant before land purchase or just have secured funds.*

4. Budget. Robin reported that the selectboard approved an operating budget for the committee of \$450, and approved the idea of a fundraising account. Joe explained that to use money from the budget the committee would first need to vote prior to any purchase, which would be done using our tax-free code. We collect the receipt, and give it to the town accountant, who would write the check. *Robin will meet with Brian to get language right for creation of account, and to get the tax code.*

7. Mission Statement: We voted to amend the mission statement to the following for posting on the website. Joe/ Mindy. 6-0. *Robin will present this to Brian when she meets with him in about 2 weeks.*

"The purpose of the Northfield Community Park Committee is to explore the potential opportunities for the creation of a community park, working collaboratively with town committees and departments to plan, analyze, design, and implement a community park, serving the recreational needs of our residents as well as promoting tourism.

This committee was established by the Open Space Committee and the Recreation Commission in accordance with the 2013 Open Space and Recreation Plan, Section 9: Seven Year Action Plan, Recreation Goal R2: Ensure that Northfield maintains and improves the variety, quality, and accessibility of recreational facilities important in the twenty-first century for the health and well-being of all residents, and promote the use of these facilities and any organized programming thereof."

4. Community Preservation Committee Request: The committee drafted and approved the following, which Robin will present to the CPC at their next meeting. Kathy/ Kate. 6-0.

"We, the Northfield Community Park Committee (NCPC) of the Town of Northfield, MA, have been tasked with locating, procuring, and developing land suitable for use as a town park. Key attributes desirable in a town park have been determined by the citizens of Northfield in the Master Plan (adopted in 2014), the 2013 Open Space and Recreation Plan and by the NCPC. These features include playing fields, bikeways and pathways, play structures, a community garden, a picnic area, proximity to the Connecticut River, a central location, and access to town water and sewer. We request a sum of \$30,000 from the Northfield CPA funds to purchase park land."

5. Member Reports: Joe attended a PTO meeting about the play structures they intend to purchase. He was impressed by their fundraising ideas. Also mentioned that when/if the Recreation commission no longer needed the fields behind the school, the PTO was ready to assume responsibility for the maintenance of that area.

6. Election of officers: Robin was nominated as chairman (Kate/Julia); Cynthia was nominated as vice-chair (Robin/Kate); Joe was nominated as treasurer (Robin/Mindy); Kate was nominated as secretary (Julia/Kathy). Mindy made a motion to accept the full slate as stated, Kathy seconded. 6-0.

9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be May 9th at 7 pm. NOTE: this is not the first Monday, as it is annual town meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm. Kathy/ Robin. 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Julia Blyth

Unanimously accepted as written ~~5-9-16~~ 5.9.16.
Submitted by Robin Conley 5.12.16