

~~DRAFT~~—Northfield Community Park Committee Meeting Minutes—~~2016~~

January 9, 2016

7pm, Town Hall

Present: Robin Conley, Kathy Coutu, Julia Blyth, Joseph Stacy, Mindy Nadolski

Absent: Gwen Trelle, Cynthia Mead, Kate Rossiter

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm by Robin Conley

1. Minutes: Joe noted that according to the November minutes, there was not a quorum at that meeting. The committee voted to approve the October minutes as written (since the November vote would not be valid without a quorum). Julia/Kathy. 5-0. The committee also approved the November minutes. Kathy/Julia 4-1.

2. Update on NMH Land. Robin reported that there is no news from Jerry, and wanted the committee's approval to follow up on getting the NMH test well closed. She will discuss with Jerry, then talk to Bill L to get on the Conservation Commission agenda to see if they have any ability to help move the process forward. Mindy/Joe. 5-0.

3. Prioritizing Ch 61 land as a possible park. The town has the right of first refusal when a landowner wants to sell land that is currently in Chapter 61 (forestry—61, agriculture—61A, or recreation—61B). If committees that have interest in land know what parcels are potentially interesting to them before they are up for sale, this would allow the town to move quickly, rather than allowing the allotted time (120 days) to ~~elapse~~ lapse before finding a way to finance a purchase. Our committee was given a parcel list of all properties currently in Ch 61. We prioritized certain codes on the list to examine (leaving out forested land and wetlands), and divided the list among those present to examine, each taking a section to look into. We can use Mass GIS resources found at: http://maps.massgis.state.ma.us/map_ol/oliver.php, aerial photographs, and local knowledge. We are looking for parcels of at least 10 acres that would be suitable for playing fields, play structures, and hopefully connect into the bikeway. We will focus our attention on land nearest to downtown, but will not exclude land in West Northfield (especially if near the Schell Bridge).

4. Article on Bikeway. Robin brought a copy of an article that recently appeared in the Recorder highlighting the regional bikeway.

5. Next meeting: Next meeting to be Feb 6th at 7pm. There was some discussion about only meeting every other month as presented in Nov. Joe felt that this would allow progress to stall, and Julia suggested planning to meet monthly as we have before, but not calling meetings if there was no new business to discuss.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm. Kathy/Julia. 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Julia Blyth

Unanimously accepted 2.6.17