

**Adopted Minutes
Waterbury Recreation Committee Meeting 2/10/2021
Via online connection on Zoom**

This meeting is only available through via Zoom. To join this meeting use the link below or call the number.

The zoom platform will be opened prior to let folks in and settle into the technology, but **business will begin no earlier than 6:30**. Attendees who log in will be queued in the “waiting room” and will be admitted by the meeting administrator.

In accordance with Town practices for public meetings on the Zoom platform the business portion of the meeting will be recorded. The Chair will announce the beginning and end of recording.

Join Zoom Meeting

In order to reduce the incidents of meeting disruptions the link to the meeting will not be posted. To receive the link to the meeting email the chair or any member of the committee for a link to the meeting, otherwise dial in

<https://zoom.us/j/93512532852?pwd=MUIBZWVWmlMmMmQwdzZiMkQ2dXVNQT09>

Meeting ID: 935 1253 2852

Passcode: 496487

Dial by your location

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The administrator for the call will be the chair.

Please mute if you are not speaking. (The administrator may mute those who forget)

Please raise hand to speak.

If you are speaking and have the capacity for video please turn video on when you speak or identify yourself by name prior to making your comments.

Roll Call:

Committee Members:

Present: Frank Spaulding, Paul Lawson, Barb Blauvet, Phoebe Pelkey Bill Minter

Absent:

Town Employees – Officers:

Present:

Guests: Meg Baldor, Tom Scribner, Jane Brown, Eric Lustgarten

1. Review Agenda

2. Adopt Meeting Agenda:
 - a. Motion to adopt: Paul
 - b. Second: Phoebe
 - c. Discussion:
 - d. Vote: Passed
3. Adopt Meeting Minutes of 1/13/2021:
 - a. Tabled
4. Recreation Director – Report
 - a. Nick will be issuing a permit to a disc golf tournament
 - i. He has used the rules as they exist as well as incorporated changes based on what has been heard and learned through our process, including added fees, requirements and a vendor license
 - b. Ice rink is going very well
- 2 Paul to summarize shared files
- 3 Disc Golf
 - a. Status of scope
 - i. The group worked through the document editing (attached)
 - b. Rubenstein school status
 - i. Frank to reach out with draft
 - c. Report from WCC
 - i. Frank to reach out to WCC
 - d. Status report to the Selectboard

Motion to adjourn: Paul

Second: Bill and crowd

Vote: Passed Adjournment 8:55 PM

Current conditions

A use has grown in popularity through the significant volunteer efforts. These significant volunteer efforts have created a resource that draws many residents and visitors outside to recreate. The course has become increasingly popular over the years and is now known and advertised regionally as a destination course. Popularity has continued to flourish during the COVID 19 pandemic.

This popularity has led to the following conflicts, potential conflicts or identified stresses.

Neighbors

Residents near opposite boundaries to the park have registered complaints about behavior, noise and impact.

Profanity, public toileting

The environment

The Waterbury Conservation Commission has identified both acute and aggregate negative impacts to the environment of the park. (report attached)

They have offered their assistance in identifying corrective and mitigation activity.

Other current users

Parking capacity

Depending on timing of events and other activities parking capacity at HD is a chronic issue.

Walkers

Use of this part of the property is truly mixed with the exception of an outdated course map is a property without wayfinding, or informational usage or directional signage within the park area to guide, warn and assist shared use.

The extent of the course and amount of play along with the crowded nature of the activities has created the appearance of exclusive use.

Potential uses

While none are currently underway there has been discussion in the past of using this portion of the property to link to the community path

Maintenance and Care

The current volunteer effort is robust and while likely internally organized is loosely accountable to the town.

No formal agreement exists between the Town and the major organizing group of individual volunteers.

While interaction with the Town has taken place, it has been on an as needed basis and informal.

Other

League play and prize events have raised the question of the use of the property for individual or organizational profit.

Desired goals

Shared use

Parity of use

The property is available for use to all citizens, within applicable Waterbury regulations and bylaws.

Including Disc Golf

Use is proportional to the capacity and community goals for the property without appearing exclusive and creating inappropriate barriers to access.

Capacity

Point in time and aggregate use is sustainable by the physical resources available and the ability of the natural resources and the community at large to tolerate the targeted use.

Seasonal variations as applicable

Shared Responsibility, Expectations, Partnerships/agreements

Financial

Existing

Determine the maintenance and carrying costs for the property and improvements.

Acknowledge and quantify the value of volunteer work.

New

Cost sharing structure.

What is the town willing to absorb as part of the ongoing service nature of having this asset within the Town.

To what degree does the activity exceed the level of community service activity.

How to bridge funding or work gap.

Fees

League and tournament play charged just as leagues and tournaments at other facilities, even for charity.

Other use fees?

Physical

Facilities

Standards

Develop a facility standard (tee pads, signage, benches, tree protection, mowed areas etc)

Acceptable materials

Locker ?

Activity

Who, when, What requires prior approval, what does not
Permits?

Environment

Analyze the current environmental impact.

Wetlands

Determine with the WCC what to Accept, Correct, Avoid, Mitigate

Monitor

Behavioral

Use behavior

Alcohol – self explanatory

Exemptions for events?

Existing rules

Relationships

Agreements (MOU) with a volunteer group, business or organization vested in the course would be beneficial.

Monitoring

Of the behavior

Self (ability of the individual user to self-police behavior)

Signage, tournament agreements

Town

Incident reporting system

Law enforcement

Combination

IE - Event fees for dedicated enforcement

Memberships and agreements

Of the agreement

Structured evaluation and renewals (annual or biennial)

Activity reports (determine frequency)

Of the site

WCC, Rec Committee, Town and Partner Group

Updating all of the above

Commit to revisit this overarching analysis every 10 years or at a significant change in use

Potential groups or sources of information

Neighbors

Disc Golf Community

Waterbury Conservation Commission

Dispersed Recreation Users

Walkers skiers etc

Waterbury Town (recreation programming)

Other groups that use the facilities that could impact or be impacted by increased demand/use

Soccer, baseball, picnic groups etc

Vermont FPR Recreation Division resources and examples of special use permits etc.