



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, Phoebe Pelkey Bill Minter

Absent: Barb Blauvet

Town Employees – Officers:

Present:

Guests: Allan Thompson, Eric Lustgarten, William Vigdor Mark Stirewalt, Tom Scribner, Meg Baldor, Jane Brown

1. Review Agenda
2. Adopt Meeting Agenda:
  - a. Motion to adopt: Paul Lawson
  - b. Second: Frank Spaulding
  - c. Discussion: None
  - d. Vote: Passed
3. Adopt Meeting Minutes of 1/13/2021 and 2/10/2021:
  - a. Motion to adopt: Phoebe Pelkey
  - b. Second: Paul Lawson
  - c. Discussion: None
  - d. Vote: Passed
4. Recreation Director – Summer camp sold out in 15 minutes, a profit of \$9600 in registration fees. Town rec not looking to become a licensed childcare center at this point. Consider this in the new rec plans for a new facility. Currently Camp Coda is the licensed summer program in town.
5. State Recreation funding – any news of potential grants for town facilities?
6. American Recovery Plan? – any news of potential grants for town facilities?
7. Winterfest/Wanderlust- big hit. Bill Minter will report the wrap up at the next meeting.
8. Disc Golf- Heard from Mark Stirewalt - describing the value of the Center Chains. Going to meet with WATA about a counter. Allan Thompson from the Conservation Commission commented, their mission is to preserve Waterbury areas. They identify strategies and environmental concerns and could be an advisor committee to develop a management plan of the property. He would encourage a consulting author or a well thought through agreement. Could work with the rec committee to establish recommendations for the golf course. Consider VOREC money to hire a consultant to help with this.

Review current Document

- a. Report to the Selectboard Will wrap this scope of work and get a rough draft to the select board at the next meeting. Ask the select board to agree with a planning process.
9. American recovery
  10. After COVID...
    - a. Open discussion on where recreation goes next
    - b. Does use climb, Stay level, or fall off?

Motion to adjourn: Paul Lawson

Second: Bill Minter

Vote: Passed Adjournment 8:00PM

## **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.