

DRAFT Minutes
Waterbury Recreation Committee Meeting 8/19/2021
Dac Rowe Picnic Shelter

6:30 – 8:00 PM

This meeting will not be available for public attendance via online connection other than phone connection for members as necessary to provide participation in the meeting.

Roll Call:

Committee Members: Phoebe Pelkey, Paul Lawson. Frank Spaulding, Jane Brown, Meg Baldor, Bill Minter

Present: Phoebe Pelkey, Paul Lawson. Frank Spaulding, Jane Brown (via phone), Meg Baldor

Absent: Bill Minter

Town Employees – Officers:

Present:

Guests:

1. Review Agenda –
2. Adopt Meeting Agenda:
 - a. Motion to adopt:
 - b. Second:
 - c. Discussion: Table sections 5,7,8,9
 - d. Vote: adopted by concensus
3. Adopt Meeting Minutes of 7/14/2021:
 - a. Motion to adopt: Phoebe Pelkey
 - b. Second: Paul Lawson
 - c. Discussion:
 - d. Vote: Passed
4. Public Comments – None
5. Recreation Director – Nick - **Tabled**
 - a. Report from the recreation Director
 - i. Due to agenda demands this section will be abbreviated or eliminated at the discretion of the Director
6. Proposal of VOREC grant application letter of intent for Long Range management Planning for Hope Davey.

Meg requesting that it has been recognized that a Class 2 jurisdictional wetlands exists at HDP

Motion made to ask the town if they consent to a Letter of Intent for Hope Davey Park for the VOREC grant.
Motion to Adopt: Phoebe Pelkey

Second: Frank Spaulding

Vote: Passed

Motion made to move forward with broad scope development with a letter of intent to be presented to the select board with the goal of a long range plan.

Motion to Adopt: Frank Spaulding

Second: Paul Lawson

Vote: Passed

Depending on the time required for the previous item is not known at time of publishing one of the following items may be eliminated from the agenda the day before the meeting.

7. Disc Golf - **Tabled**

a. Feedback on proposal

i. Disc golf

ii. Committee

iii. Public

8. Skate Park - **Tabled**

a. Discussion of roll of rec committee in making a recommendation to the town regarding

i. Siting

ii. Scale

iii. Operation and Management planning

9. Consideration of special meeting to review and finalize recommended disc golf draft plan/agreement to Town. - **Tabled**

10. Adjourn

8:00pm

The project includes two phases

Long range planning of the Hope Davey Municipal Park located in the historic Waterbury Center Village core, and the reestablishment and construction of a walking pathway within the wooded southern section of the Park.

Hope Davey Park is a popular municipal park with significant community and volunteer investments in multiple recreation offerings including but not limited to pavilion, playground, Youth baseball and soccer fields, basketball courts, horseshoes and a skate park currently near end of life. The Southern wooded portion hosts a volunteer constructed and maintained 18 hole disc golf course which is free to use and enjoys significant popularity, both from residents and visitors alike. Social media and disc golf specific apps, inspire visitation and appreciation of this course from many visitors. This visitation is beneficial to the local economy specifically with food and beverage establishments and the local sporting goods store located in the historic Waterbury Village.

This course was built atop of and significantly overlays a previously existing walking path in the area. The recent increase in outdoor recreation coupled with the natural increase in disc golf popularity has placed a strain on the shared uses of this area resulting in recent pain in the relationship between the disc golf community and others who wish to use the area for other uses and has in some places stressed the natural environment of the area.

In order to preserve the benefits of the disc golf course while returning the area to a more balanced shared use, the following is required and is the subject of this requested grant.

A long-range or master plan possibly patterned after the planning tool kit developed by the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation. The plan must be executed for the entire park, with robust engagement with the community, neighbors, and stakeholders. As all facilities share the supporting elements of the park (Parking, utilities, and toilets) this plan must encompass the full property.

Improvements to be implemented based on the results of the planning process will include

Approximately 3500 linear feet of trail construction/rehabilitation and environmental restoration, protection of the southerly wooded area containing the disc golf course with the result true shared use of the area \$150,000.

Improvements to increased recreation facilities including but not limited to ADA access, parking improvements, stormwater management, seating, information venues (physical and virtual)

In addition, reestablishment of the walking trail in the wooded area must be designed and constructed in a manner that reduces conflict between the user groups and provides protection for the natural setting. This can be done only after the long-range planning process. While it is difficult to predict the specific routing now it can be reasonably foreseen that the trail can serve both significant uses of the area and assist in improving the environmental quality of the facility.

The outcome will be increased use of the site for walking while safely integrating preserving and improving the experience within the disc golf course. Delay of this plan and these improvements will allow the conflict of use to continue degrading the recreational opportunities and the benefits they bring.

This project is supported by the Town of Waterbury Recreation Committee who will assist Town staff in guiding the long range planning process.

Cost (are based on recent State Of Vermont Forests, Parks and Recreation Contracts and estimates for similar work)

Planning and design - \$45,000

Trail construction (based on 3,300 Linear foot estimate) \$138,600

Total Grant request - \$183,600

Draft of 8.19.2021