

DOG RIVER PARK COMMITTEE

Minutes of March 9, 2022

I. Roll Call

- a. Members in attendance: Bonnie Kirn Donahue, Kim Adams, Simon Pearish, Russ Barrett, Laura Hill-Eubanks (non-voting)

II. Set/Adjust Agenda

- a. No changes

III. Approval of Minutes (February)

- a. Russ moves to approve, Kim seconds 4-0-0

IV. Discussion

a. Spring event

- i. The town manager has agreed to have the new benches placed in the park by May 1st.
- ii. Diane (Northfield Historical Society) is supportive of a plan to have a low-key dedication event where we tie a ribbon around one bench and have it cut at a dedicated time.
- iii. We propose to hold the event at 1pm on Sunday, May 1st. Start with remarks from a representative of the Class of '57 with a time of ribbon cutting at 1:15pm.

b. Events in the park

- i. The town has had guidelines for reserving the Memorial Park pavilion in the past, but this method is outdated and it might be worthwhile to revisit these guidelines with the town manager and see how these guidelines should be updated.

- 1. Town should keep a record of who is reserving sites and if they adhered to the rules.

2. Town could collect fees based on level of service.
Bathroom access could be a premium service that requires a premium fee, for example.

c. Maintenance plan

- i. Bonnie and Simon independently researched weed control on paths. Below are the recommended methods.
 1. Metal edging.
 2. Mower needs to blow grass clippings off of paths after mowing to take away organic matter and weed seeds.
 3. Deep rake the paths to uproot the weeds.
 4. Apply a new thin layer of gravel every few years.
 5. Must tamp after raking or application of new gravel.
 6. Herbicide.
 7. Replace gravel with concrete.
- ii. Bonnie added notes from the construction planting plan about tree species.
- iii. A critical function of this maintenance plan is to outline the maintenance that is needed in the Dog River Park so that the town can determine how much of this maintenance can be achieved by volunteers and how much should be done by paid workers (contractors or town employees).

d. Member updates

V. Public Participation (unscheduled)

VI. Adjournment