

# TOWN OF BARNSTABLE BARNSTABLE RECREATION DIVISION



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## RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES 6 APRIL 2009

**Commission Members Present:** Clyde Takala – Chairman, Joe O’Brien – Vice Chairman, Rene King, Andy Gauthier, Kathy, Pina, Kevin Turner and Dan Proto

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m., roll call was taken. Kevin Turner made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 meeting, seconded by Kathy Pina, the Commission voted and it was passed unanimously.

**Public Comment: Robert Anderson**, President of the Cape Cod MX track brought forth a proposal to the Recreation Commission to provide a management service for Hathaway’s Pond area to maintain existing trails. Cape Cod MX needs a place to ride dirt bikes but is having trouble finding any open space. The main issue they face is that with no legal place to ride, this causes a lot of problem with enforcement and residents. What they propose is to open a legal riding area but there is a lot to it and the biggest step is the acquisition of land. It must be in a remote area so as not to affect residents. The town has sufficient resources for this and it is part of the open space and recreation plan. Robert Anderson said that he was looking into electric dirt bikes to purchase and rent. **Kevin Turner** asked Robert how much land he would need. Robert said 3 ½ acres. **Clyde Takala** said the Commission members would review his proposal.

**New Business: Joe O’Brien** presented a proposal by Dave Chase, President of the Hyannis Youth & Community Center Foundation, to name rink 2 as the Patrick M. Butler Skating Rink. Dave Chase plans on building an endowment to support ongoing programs at the Hyannis Youth & Community Center and plans to build this fund to \$1 million over a period of years. **Clyde Takala** said that if the Recreation Commission makes a recommendation to the Town Manager, John Klimm will make the final decision. **Lynne Poyant** informed the Commission that something is named when money is donated. They have asks out on naming rights, but those asks fell through. She said that the Hyannis Youth & Community Center Foundation accepts financial gifts for naming rights. **Kevin Turner** asked what the Recreation Commission role was and if Dave Chase was looking for a blessing. **Joe O’Brien** said yes and would like to invite Dave Chase to the next meeting.

**Officer Brian Morrison**, of the Barnstable Police Department, member of the Kiwanis Club of Hyannis and Lt. Governor of the Kiwanis of New England, put forth a proposal for Ridgewood Park project in Hyannis. He has been in contact with Travis Armes of Game Time and is looking to update the playground at Ridgewood Park. All towns have new playgrounds except

Hyannis. His proposal for new playground equipment can be installed on either block of the 2 block Ridgewood Park. Officer Morrison said that the quote of \$50,588.67 is for the playground equipment, safety surfacing, and one day of supervision, free of charge. He said that this is a big community project and that local fire and police departments have all agreed to help. **Clyde Takala** asked for clarification regarding the quote and what does a day of supervision include. **Officer Morrison** said that when Travis Armes arrives he can explain what that means. **Kevin Turner** asked if there were going to be lights. Officer Morrison said no, it would only be utilized during the day, after school and weekends. Kevin asked if he anticipated being able to raise funds for the project. Officer Morrison said that he is asking the Town for funds, each of the six Kiwanis clubs and mainly will be fundraising. Kevin asked if anyone from Hyannis Civic Association was in the audience. There was no response.

**Andy Gauthier** asked about the two parcels of land and what would the second parcel be used for. Officer Morrison said most likely for a picnic area. **Joanne Miller**, Director of Growth Management informed the Commission and Officer Morrison that there is an opportunity to obtain funds for Ridgewood Park. There is a grant proposal for stability funds for certain neighborhoods and Ridgewood Park meets that requirements. She said that she could offer help with design services, other grant options, entire park reformation, or programming for the park. Joanne also suggested that no parking be created, that it would be a strictly walk to destination. **Clyde Takala** offered a comment from Dr. Rozene who could not attend the meeting that the upgrades would be an improvement to the neighborhood and the children would have fun on it. **David Curley** asked if speed bumps would be installed. **Peter Bennett** said that Locust Street was a problem for cars speeding. **Kevin** asked what the speed limit was and if speed bumps would cause a problem in rescues. **John Doherty** from Hyannis Fire said no, it would only slow the rescue trucks down a few seconds. **Officer Morrison** said that the speed limit is 15 mph in any residential neighborhood. **Andy Gauthier** said that he agreed with not creating parking for the area. **Charlie Bloom** said he was in favor of creating benefits for the children, but is very concerned for the parking in that area. He only sees the police when he calls them; intoxicated people have trashed the existing place and is not happy with opening up the small park to a larger community. **Kevin Turner** said that there is a lack of availability of parks in Hyannis and this would be a great opportunity for Hyannis and would improve it. **Officer Morrison** said that because nothing is at Ridgewood Park that is why there are people who hang out there. And the police do not go there unless called because it is considered a low priority. He said that there would be no basketball courts and it is only geared to young children ages 2 and up. **Charlie Bloom** said that he is concerned about night time and damage to the equipment. Officer Morrison said that they can look into lights for security. **Lynne Poyant** suggested motion lights.

**Eugene Burman** of the Kiwanis said that all the Kiwanis Clubs are supportive of the project. It is a large project for a small club but they will make it possible. **Travis Armes** of Game Time answered Clyde's question on the quote. The quote defines what a day is for the free supervisor, the volunteers need to provide their own tools and cement and what happens in the event of a rain day. **Travis** said that the playground equipment should last 25-30 years and is all modular; one thing can be replaced if it is damaged. He went on to say that underneath the equipment would be woodchip type material. It is sliced and frayed in a certain way and they bind together. It meets all safety requirements and is handicap accessible. **Kevin** asked what Officer Morrison's time line was. **Officer Morrison** said that they are waiting for the Recreation Commission's blessing. He has verbal commitments, but is waiting until the Commission reaches a decision. **John Doherty** believes that the upgrade to Ridgewood Park is a good tool to entice

young families and help the future of Hyannis. **Rene King** asked that if the facility would be lighted would that cost more money. **Officer Morrison** said yes. **Lynne Poyant** said that the Town is working on a lighting plan to light the streets of Hyannis and would be carried through to that neighborhood. **Kathy Pina** asked how many kids could be on the playground at one time. **Travis** said 60-70 children at one time. **Kathy** doesn't think that it would ever be over crowded. **Clyde** said that the playground is geared toward young children. **Charlie Bloom** wanted to mention again that he is very concerned about parking. It is a quiet neighborhood and wants it to remain quiet. **Rene** made a motion to be prepared to vote on the Ridgewood Park upgrades at the next meeting. Seconded by Kathy, the Commission voted and it was passed unanimously.

**Lynne Poyant** thanked Rene for suggesting the grant workshop. There were 19 staff present and Rene and they are planning 2-3 more workshops.

**Kathy Pina** made a motion to not move forward on the ATV Park at Hathaway's Pond, seconded by Dan Proto, the Commission voted and it was passed unanimously. **Rene** asked that Robert Anderson be notified of the decision.

**Old Business: Joe O'Brien** commented on the End of the Rink ceremony. He thought it went very well but the P.A. system was terrible. **Andy Gauthier** asked about the naming rights for Caroline Fries. Was it the same process and were they going to proceed with the garden around the flag. **David** said it was the same process for naming rights and that he was approached by many groups who were raising money for the garden and also raising \$10,000 for a locker room. **Joe** said that Dave Chase who will be asked to come to the next meeting is raising money for the 2<sup>nd</sup> rink in Pat Butler's name; the locker room and a possible scholarship in Caroline Fries name. **Kathy Pina** suggested names on the lights and benches outside. **Lynne** thought that was a great idea and no one had mentioned that yet.

**Public Comment: Clyde Takala** read into the minutes a letter to David Curley from the John F. Kennedy Memorial Trust Fund Committee thanking him for his excellent leadership as a Director of the Recreation Division. **Kevin Turner** made a motion to send a copy of the letter to Lynne Poyant and the Town Manager, seconded by Rene, the Commission voted and it was passed unanimously. Also, Clyde read into the minutes a request from Peggy Bernard of BWB's Annual PTO Auction, asking for a donation from the rink to serve as memorabilia. This piece of the rink will be auctioned off. **David** said that he needs to find out from Legal what can or cannot be given away or sold.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009 and the meeting location is to be announced. **Joe O'Brien** made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by **Andy Gauthier**; the motion was passed at 7:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Samantha Garfield, Principal Division Assistant, Recreation Division