

Board of Park Commissioners Meeting  
Thursday April 13, 2023

In Attendance: Theodore Carroll, Anthony McDermott, Winston Daley, Kevin Chrisom Park Director, Paul DiManno Recreation Director and Bonnie Devore, Principal Clerk

1. Keith McDermott called the meeting to order in the Blute Conference rm. 7:30am.
  
2. Approve Meeting Minutes 3/2/23, 3/28/23:
  - a. Meeting Minutes were approved as written.
  
3. Milton Public Schools Building Committee- Gile Road Land Presentation
  - a. Mike Zullas was present at the meeting in addition was Ada Rosemartin and Sean O'Rourke via video conference call representing the school building committee and were here to discuss the land swap for use of a school at Gile Road. Mike provided a power point presentation handout and slideshow showing the current need of the school and quick historical on the search for a location on what little land is available throughout the Town of Milton. Mike provided in the presentation more details about the current discussion and an offer on the table on what this department would receive currently vs. what was approved last year. The committee has been creative and taken into consideration a lot of input over the past year to come up with what they feel is a better plan. The Parks and Recreation Department would receive priority in the gym facility rentals and additional parking for the fields. Additionally, the land that would need to be taken will be less than original ask leaving a buffer deemed by a state forester as more valuable as conservation. Discussed what conditions under Article 97 and what they will offer as a land swap to Conservation that would be land located at Herrick Dr., Randolph Ave., Canton/Highland Ave., and Popes Pond. The property under the Parks and Recreation Department being discussed is deemed active recreation as written in the Lamb Estate Trust and once approved by this board we will then go to the Select Board then to Federal Officials to present our proposal. This will need a 2/3 vote by the legislature to move forward. The board discussed and Keith and Kevin questioned whether this department would receive any land to replace the land being taken that is for active recreation? Mike said no it is only the priority mentioned and parking along with what we are offering in

land to conservation. Ted stated that it is not this board's charge to decide whether a school is needed, our role as park commissioners is to protect the land under our care and we need to take into consideration future needs of the recreation in town. Winston also agrees that we need to protect the land but also take into consideration the needs of the schools to provide for the children. Keith supported the swap for the use of the land for a school to be built.

4. Lower Gile:

Kevin didn't have any new updates. The board briefly discussed the recent hybrid meeting and the next upcoming meeting with Conservation Commission.

5. Public Comment:

Pete Jackson was present to discuss the land looking to be swapped for the schools and the strong chances of it not going through at the state level. Also discussed was the importance of protecting the future needs for recreation space in the town along with role as park commissioners to protect and preserve the land originally designated for recreational use by the Lamb Trust.

6. Managers' Report:

Kevin stated Spring sports have taken off and we are in full swing at all the fields. He also noted that a Cyanobacteria Bloom had been discovered at Turners Pond. The Health Department has hung signs alerting visitors and we have hung signs of no fishing as a precaution. A notice was also posted to the town website. Paul discussed the babysitting/CPR class held over vacation week along with Jr. Golf. Registration has gone live for Summer Programs. Our 7-week Recreation Program at Cunningham Park sold out in 1 night. Also, we are working with the girl's varsity coach on running a Sunday night basketball program for ages 8-12.

Next meeting: April 24, 2023. 7:30am.

ACCEPTED: \_\_\_\_\_

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