



TOWN OF GRAFTON

GRAFTON MEMORIAL MUNICIPAL CENTER
30 PROVIDENCE ROAD
GRAFTON, MA 01519
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Jenny Andersen, CPRP, CPSI
Recreation Director

GRAFTON RECREATION COMMISSION

Kristen Belanger, Chair
Michael Bruny
Stephen Crowley
Kayla Cushman
Adriane Mampe

Cody Herd, Recreation Coordinator
Mary Sevon, Department Assistant

Department Phone: 508-839-8507
Department E-mail: recreation@grafton-ma.gov
Department Website: www.GraftonRec.com

GRAFTON RECREATION COMMISSION

May 1, 2023
Zoom Meeting

A Recreation Commission meeting was held on **May 1, 2023 via Zoom**. Commissioners in attendance were Kristen Belanger, Stephen Crowley, and Kayla Cushman. Jen Andersen and Mary Sevon were also in attendance. Michael Bruny and Adriane Mampe arrived late.

1. **Call to Order:** Ms. Belanger called the meeting to order at 7:11 pm with a Zoom roll call.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Crowley motioned to approve the minutes from the April 3, 2023 meeting. Ms. Cushman seconded. All approved. Motion passed 4-0.
3. **Review of Bills:** Bills from April were reviewed. Ms. Belanger asked about the invoice for t-shirts. Ms. Andersen clarified that the order was large as it covered 300 Road race shirts and 450 camp and staff shirts.
4. **Correspondence:** No specific pieces of correspondence for the month were provided. The Commission talked about the main concerns brought forth by the Pickleball players was the number of courts at Ferry St going from 3 to 4. There was some discussion regarding the loss of square footage. All emails with concerns have been addressed. Space between courts has remained the same as 5 feet. Permanent nets versus temporary nets were also discussed. Although the nets are temporary, they will be up all season and just come down for the winter season. Ms. Mampe asked about windscreens, the hitting wall and a bench. These details will be addressed later in the process. Mr. Crowley thanked Ms. Andersen for handling this process well.

Letter of Support: The Commission had been asked to write a letter in support of Grafton's MVP Action Grant. A draft letter was provided. Ms. Belanger asked questions about the run off that was vague within the draft letter. She wants clarification. After much discussion, Ms. Belanger made a motion to approve sending a letter of support for the MVP Grant with comments. Mr. Crowley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried 5-0.

5. **ARPA Funding Update:** There are currently two projects in the process utilizing ARPA Funding: Masterplan and Pickleball Court Update.

MASTERPLAN: Ms. Andersen has noted that the bid document was posted on 4/19/2023. There was a site visit scheduled for May 3.

PICKLEBALL: Ms. Andersen indicated that the project is moving along. The crack repair was done. The basketball hoops were taken down. The paving was done. Now the surface needs to be cured for 60 days. The surface painting is the next step and should be complete by late June, early July. The main gate to the courts is closed and locked. One end of the court has orange fencing to discourage trespassers. The posts are trying to reinforce that no footprints should be on the new surface.

A few questions came up about the opportunity to extend pickleball indoors until the courts are available. Ms. Andersen is waiting on an update from the Senior Center on availability. We also need to look at scheduling. More decisions will be made in the next week.

6. **Commissioner Reports – CPC, OSRP, Programming/Events:**

OSRP: There is no news since the last meeting. The next meeting is May 14.

CPC: The CPC is getting ready for a presentation at the Town Meeting. The following Commissioners will be attending: Ms. Belanger, Mr. Crowley, and Ms. Cushman. They agreed to sit in the front right area. Roger Trahan will also be speaking in support of the playground. Ms. Andersen expects to give a one-minute presentation. The outreach presentation includes the why and why now answers, the goals that the project will accomplish and highlight the amenities. Since we are coming in with 42% of the funds already available, the project should be approved. There have been questions about mulch versus another surface which is purely a cost savings measure. Another question came up about the space between the parking lot and the park and that it needs to be accessible.

Programming: The Someone Special Dance was discussed. Mr. Crowley and Ms. Cushman were extremely positive about the experience. There was a good turnout and approximately 50 people signed up, which amounts to over 100 attendees.

7. **Director Report:**

Ms. Andersen gave an update on the Grafton Gazebo Road Race which is May 13th. We have between 150 and 170 racers. The event starts at 10AM. Last year the race was capped at 200 but this year we will be open for registration up to the Tuesday before. Mr. Crowley is not available for volunteering at this event. Mr. Bruny will be available. Ms. Cushman will also be available.

Regarding the 95 North project, the work is ongoing with the lot cleared. The parking lot work will be done between June and August and then the contractors will build the shade structure and finish in the Fall of 2023.

Other projects in the works include finalizing quotes for ADA portion of all parks and finalizing the Fall/Winter programming. We are still looking for CITs and Lifeguards.

Ms. Belanger announced that maintenance around the accessible pathways needs to be addressed. The grass is growing through the matting and pathways. The path needs to be visible and delineated. Ms. Andersen commented that the mats will be ripped up and the pathways will be paved. The mats will be reallocated elsewhere. The surface at 95 North will be stabilized stone dust and reclaimed asphalt that is sealed and not loose pebbles. The paths in the woods portion of the park are hard-packed dirt.

Ms. Cushman questioned the path of the road race. The road between the Common and the Church will be closed off. There will be a plant sale going on at the Common at the same time as the race.

Questions came up about future plans at Perry Hill Park. The Master Plan will be our guiding document that can address the future of all of the parks.

Other future programs coming up are the Community Yard Sale on 5/6 with shopping from 9AM to 2PM with 25-27 residences and 10 sites on the Common. Additionally, Movie Night, Big Truck Day, Free Fishing Clinic and hopefully Beach party at the end of July.

8. At 7:541 pm Mr. Crowley made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Mampe seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed unanimously 5-0. The next meeting will be on June 5, 2023 in person.