

Monkton Recreation Committee
Monday, May 2, 2022
7:00 to 8:00 PM
Meeting Minutes
Meeting conducted at New Town Hall

Members Present: John Zaikowski, Rick Imes, Paul Low, Adam Crary (via phone)

Other guests: Cathy Buscaglia, Monkton Dog Park Committee, Seve Yates, CSSU Buccaneers

1. Call to Order: Zaikowski called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM

2. Cathy Buscaglia, Monkton Dog Park Committee, advised the Dog Park Committee is beginning to clean out the old bathroom space next to the Morse Park storage shed as storage for their equipment, and Low is going to remove the toilet. The 1-year anniversary celebration is scheduled for 6/5/22. Buscaglia also asked whether planting a memorial tree in the dog park was acceptable. Committee members had no objection, but asked that any excavation be screened/approved through Department of Historic Preservation. Types of trees generally discussed, with the Committee favoring native/non-invasive.

3. CSSU Buccaneers football jamboree: Steve Yates, on behalf of CSSU presented an initial proposal for use of Morse Park. CSSU is a youth football group, which organizes a 7-8 town football jamboree at the end of each summer, and is looking into possible venues. The jamboree is a one-day event holding multiple 30-minute scrimmages in multiple youth-aged groups. The event typically hosts 800-1000 people, with 250-300 cars throughout the day. They are looking to hold the event on Saturday, August 27 from 9 AM to 2 PM. The event typically includes music and several vendors. Committee members asked about insurance, portalets, trash, and parking. Yates advised CSSU is fully insured, and presented a copy of its insurance certificate. CSSU would bring in portalets and coordinate trash removal for the event. Yates believed the Pond Road lot, park-and-ride lot on Monkton Road, and the School parking lot would accommodate the event. Committee members advised CSSU would have to obtain approval from the school for use of its parking lot.

Zaikowski advised Yates that the Committee would discuss further and be back in touch. Yates then left the meeting. The Committee at the end of the meeting brought the topic back up to discuss next steps. **Zaikowski made a motion for the Rec Committee to engage with CSSU on further discussions for the use of Morse Park. Seconded by Imes. All were in favor (4-0-0).** Zaikowski will contact Yates to ask for more details in a proposed facilities use plan addressing traffic, pedestrian use, parking - including potential use of the northern part of the field for overflow parking, restroom facilities, number of vendors, and trash collection and removal.

4. Review and approval of April meeting minutes: No changes or modifications to the minutes. **Zaikowski made a motion to approve the minutes. Imes seconded. Low abstained. All were in favor (3-0-1).**
5. Addison United: Addison United has begun limited use of fields, but use has been impacted by weather and wet field conditions.
6. Rec Field brush removal plan update: Crary provided an update. Chad Wright has removed the overgrown brush and sumac from the outfield fence areas and first base line, and graded. He is almost done, and will need to go back in to finish, clean up, rake, and seed, but is waiting for field conditions to further dry out.
7. Morse Park ballfield update: Crary provided an update. MAUSD dropped off a set of bleachers in the Monkton Central School parking lot. The Town is going to move it to the Rec Field. We are still waiting on MAUSD, which has been delayed in completing the remainder of the field work due to staffing/labor shortages, and wet field conditions at the Morse Park ballfield. Bases have been put in for use this spring.
8. Other: The Conservation Commission emailed the Committee asking if it wanted to re-engage on Morse Park management discussions. The Committee is open to meeting in June. Zaikowski will email the Commission.

9. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM

Respectfully submitted,

John Zaikowski