



**TOWN OF MENDON**  
**PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

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**Meeting Date: 10/6/16**  
**Meeting Location: Parks Building "Classroom"**  
**45 Taft Ave., Mendon, MA**  
**Minutes Approved: 10/28/2016**

**Members Present:** Dan Byer, AJ Byrne, Tom Belland

**Parks Director:** Dan Byer

**Others:**

The meeting was called to order at 4:55pm.

**AJ made a motion to accept the minutes from the 8/11/16 meeting, Tom seconded and all approved.**

The commission discussed the well at Memorial Park. Dan explained that there was another coliform issue. Tim Watson has requested funding to excavate around the well to investigate the hookups. There is some concern that the well is not hooked up incorrectly and this is leading to the issues. Dan asked Alan Tetreault to help with this and Alan said he would discuss with Tim. Alan was involved in the construction of the well and knows more about how it is connected. Tom suggested we chlorinate the well. Dan explained that there are issues because it is a public water supply and subject to specific regulations. We may have to replace the lines or install some sort of treatment system. Dan will work with Alan and report back to the board.

The commission discussed the Big Belly solar trash can. Dan explained that he would like to relocate it to the Pavilion. We received the unit through a grant with the Green Communities program several years ago. It is not used much at the beach because it is not in the best location. It would be more useful up at the Pavilion because it is high capacity and animal resistant. However due to the tree coverage the solar portion will not work and we would need an AC adapter. Tom asked if the device would function with limited sun. Dan said the manufacturer specifies direct sun. AJ asked about another location closer to the fields. Dan explained that the company now leases the units and there might be an opportunity to get more but they are probably too expensive. The commission agreed to relocate the device. *Dan will order the part we need.*

Dan also discussed the software package. The device comes with a wireless monitoring function that will "phone home" when it is full. The cost is \$228 per year. Dan is not sure if that is worth it. Tom and AJ both agree that we can't afford that feature right now.

Dan updated the commission on an issue with a stone at Pine Hill cemetery. It is falling over and needs urgent repair. There was a request for parks to fund this repair but it has been determined that CPA Historic can cover it.

The commission reviewed the options for internet service at the Classroom. Dan explained that their current contract with Comcast has expired. He has checked and there are 2 options, a 16/3 line from Comcast for \$1,104 or a 25/25 line from Verizon FIOS for \$1,280. Both would have a static IP for the cameras. Dan explained that the higher upload speed is better for the cameras. The commission discussed and agreed.

**Tom made a motion to authorize Dan to sign a contract with Verizon FIOS for internet service at the Classroom, AJ seconded and all approved.**

The commission reviewed the proposed November STM warrant article for the purchase of new mowers. Dan met with the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee last night (10/5) and they rejected our warrant article. The selectmen feel that the only articles on the special town meeting should be those that are urgent and time sensitive. They feel that our request for mowers should be part of our annual budget request at the annual town meeting. The commission discussed and is disappointed. There may be another town meeting in March. Dan suggested putting forwards the mower article again as it would be beneficial to have our mowers in time for the beginning of the season. Waiting until the May ATM will delay the purchase until June.

The commission also discussed the sizes. Tom and AJ agree that we should get the 72" mower. Dan explained he would like more time to check out some of the cemeteries to see what will fit better. He feels that the stand-on mower will make a huge difference in efficiency.

The commission discussed the Tetreault Field project. Tom spoke with Eric Peterson and they are able to start in a few weeks. Dan and Tom have both been unable to obtain additional quotes for the work. Dan explained that they can fill out a form that explains their inability to get quotes. So far they have contacted Tinio, Diamond, and Roy Landscaping with no response. AJ agrees that we need to move this project forwards. They discussed the budget. There is \$25K from CPA, \$11K in the bond account, and Nipmuc Youth Baseball is willing to kick in \$2,000. The estimate from Eric is for \$34,820.50. All agreed to the following breakdown:

CPA - \$25,000

Baseball - \$1,500

Bond Release - \$8,320.50

Dan also mentioned the parking lot repairs. He would like to fund a portion of this from the bond account as well. All agreed.

**AJ made a motion to authorize Dan to sign a contract with Eric Peterson for the Tetreault Field Drainage project, Tom Seconded, all approved.**

***Exhibit A - Estimate from Eric Peterson Landscaping and Tetreault Field Drainage Project Specs***

Dan discussed the flagpole at Memorial Park. The commission discussed moving it several months ago. The board discussed the location and it was agreed that the center right field of Pezzella, past the fence would be ideal. Dan would like to get the work done once the ground freezes to prevent damage by the truck. The board agreed to move forwards on this.

The commission discussed the pending Eagle Scout projects. Dan submitted the building permit applications and the Board of Selectmen have waived the fees. Tom had recommended that we provide the door and locks hardware for the stairs project. Dan and AJ agree. The cost will be around \$400. Dan suggested we offer the scout building the shed a similar deal. Tom explained they would like 2 sets of doors, large barn doors and a smaller passage door. He suggests we also provide the passage door. Dan and AJ agreed. They discussed the timing of the projects. Dan will reach out and let them know they can begin.

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The committee discussed Inside Corner's proposal to hold a "Trunk-or-Treat" event at the park. The 350<sup>th</sup> was considering an event but abandoned it due to not enough time. Tom asked about the event and if anyone was benefitting financially. Dan explained that it will be a free event for the community. The 350<sup>th</sup> will set up to sell merchandise. All agreed to waive the use fee for this event. (*see event flyer, Exhibit B*)

Dan asked about the electrical repairs that have been discussed at the Basketball Court. There was a possibility of using grant money to fund LED lights but that has fallen through. Dan would like to move forwards with just the repair portion of the project. AJ and Tom agreed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6pm