

Friends of Ninigret Park Subcommittee Meeting

Approved Minutes

March 20, 2014 at 5:00 PM
Charlestown Town Hall – Annex Room
4540 South County Trail
Charlestown, RI 02813

1. Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM by Chairperson Tim Quillen.

2. Roll Call:

Present at the meeting were Friends of Ninigret Park Subcommittee members Cheryl Dowdell, Tim Quillen, Ronald Russo, Peter Wronski and Parks and Recreation Director Jay Primiano.

Ronald Russo noted that he had not been sworn in and was therefore unable to vote at the meeting.

3. Approval of Minutes from January 23, 2014 meeting:

Subcommittee member Tim Quillen motioned to approve the Minutes from the January 23, 2014 Subcommittee Meeting.

Cheryl Dowdell seconded the motion and Peter Wronski approved the motion. The motion passed unanimously by all members present and able to vote.

Ronald Russo was unable to vote as he had not been sworn in.

4. Comments from the public:

Anne Mulhall was present at the meeting.

5. Welcome New Member:

6. Solicitation Update:

a. Update of Database for Park Users and Local Business Addresses:

Tim Quillen motioned to use the database to identify email opportunities. Peter Wronski seconded the motion and Cheryl Dowdell approved the vote. The vote was unanimous.

b. Banner for Park:

Director Primiano discussed exploring pricing options with local banner purveyor/s and that Mr. Russo also seek pricing for this same purpose.

No action or vote was taken.

c. Local Businesses Appeal Letter:

Director Primiano discussed working in conjunction with Anne Mulhall and Rebecca Crosby to streamline the "Business" letter for further review and discussion at the next meeting.

No action or vote was taken.

d. Review Draft Letters 2 and 3:

Director Primiano working with Anne Mulhall and Rebecca Crosby was discussed.

No action or vote was taken.

7. New Business

a. Friends of Ninigret Park Mission:

Cheryl Dowdell reflected on the Town Council's Charge and asked the question if that mission has been completed as she believes that the FONP was formed as a result of a donation to the Friends of Ninigret Park that took place without a mechanism to receive donations at the time of a festival a few years ago, therefore the FONP was formed by the Town Council to determine how these dollars may be solicited and received.

Furthermore she stated that the FONP has taken on that responsibility and has completed that mission. The "phases" could be identified in the Master Plan; the phases could be earmarked for bond consideration as a town-wide bond referendum. Allowing the voters decide if they are committed to the plan with bonded development dollars the result of such a referendum or not.

Tim Quillen motioned that each Friends of Ninigret Park subcommittee member forward to their respective commissions a recommendation to present to the Town Council recommendations to go forward with a town-wide bond for Phase One of the Master Plan upon adoption by the Town Council. Peter Wronski seconded the motion. Cheryl Dowdell approved the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Quillen noted that other causes revolving around a specific site, have lobbied the RI State Legislature for implementation of "License Plate" with the name of a place embossed on the Plate, i.e. Boston Red Sox etc. Mr. Quillen indicated that he would speak with Representative Donna Walsh in order to designate Ninigret Park for this fundraising designation through the licensing of vehicles as the public may pay for this special designation with a part of the proceeds returning to the FONP fund. Mr. Quillen will report on this next month.

b. Ninigret Park Master Plan Update:

Ms. Dowdell spoke about the recent meeting with representatives from Weston and Sampson as to elements of the plan as presented at a meeting on Monday March 17, 2014. Parks and Recreation was represented by Jay Primiano, Tim Quillen and Cheryl Dowdell at the meeting along with Mark Stankeiwicz, Town Administrator. The plan was presented to the FONP members at the meeting.

No vote or action was taken.

c. Collection Receptacle in Ninigret Park for Donations:

Discussion revolved around placement of collection receptacles within the park. Mr. Primiano will look into the cost of such a device and report back to the group.

No vote or action was taken.

8. Commission Comments:

There were no Commission comments at that time.

9. Next Meeting April 17, 2014 at 5:00 PM in the Town Hall's Annex Room

10. Adjournment:

Peter Wronski motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 PM.

The public is welcome to any meeting of the Town of Charlestown Parks and Recreation Commission.

If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captions) is needed or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please contact (711-364-1240) at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting.