

Approved 5/2/18

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Roberts Field Advisory Committee (RFAC) Meeting Minutes

Date: 4/19/18

Time: 7pm

Location: Chelmsford Town Offices [Room 205 50 Billerica Rd Chelmsford, MA](#)

Committee Attendees: Bill Askenburg, Elisabeth Bobrow, and Denille Ruth

Chelmsford Telemedia recorded and broadcast on Verizon 37/Comcast 39

Link to Agenda (prepared by Bill):

<https://www.townofchelmsford.us/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/04192018-3603>

Meeting Presentation Doc (prepared by Bill): <http://www.robertsfield.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/April-19-2018-RFAC-Meeting-Presentation-Document.pdf>

Bill convened the meeting of the Roberts Field Advisory Committee (RFAC) at 7:03pm. As always, we opened asking the handful of attendees if they had any input. Seeing as there was no public input the RFAC began running through agenda items.

New Playground Project Update and Discussion

- Bill clarified with Steve Jahnle at DPW location of maintenance gate in rear of playground and that black vinyl coated metal fence would most likely be installed.
 - Elisabeth & Denille no preference in fencing color
- “Natural Play Area” discussion
 - Location of butterfly garden in back not impacted by gate (will swing out)
 - 16x20 shade structure with 2 8ft tables (roll up access)- concrete pad it sits on needs to be flush with garden access pathways
 - Denille expressed concern for maintenance of sensory garden that was echoed by public attendee Jim Martin. Jim also worried about current size/design of garden in regards to how it may impact the root zones of the nearest tree, even with raised board walkways through root zone. Denille expressed desire to simplify garden for maintenance (wagon wheel?) and possibility of phase 2 not occurring for a long time/at all.
 - Bill asked Garrison House (has a smith) & Nashoba Tech contact about making a metal kinetic sculpture for central garden/butterfly garden or other “art” installations. These would be recognized
- DPW provided costs for the benches they would like, including buddy bench. Elisabeth frustrated with them being metal as numerous earlier discussions had been in regards to them being wooden and more natural. RFAC majority agreed to let Girl Scout troop that will be donating buddy bench choose to purchase the metal option DPW selected or build their own.
- Heritage Construction pledged to provide a cost estimate for materials and will donate labor to rebuild covered bridge. They will also provide an estimate for the signage kiosk.
 - Steve Jahnle at DPW advised pressure treated wood with shingles. Elisabeth concerned about safety of pressure treated wood & her preference for cedar, but other RFAC members in attendance and public attendees believe it to be safe.
- Signage Plan Update
 - Bill has asked his sign vendor cost estimate to replace the old sign on the covered bridge
 - Original stone with metal sign is movable, would like to move to new main entrance with kiosk and place a similar rock with new sponsors next to it (\$1200-\$1500).
 - Agreed no bench on entry side of kiosk, no garden, just two rocks with sponsors.
 - Weston Nurseries to help locate small sign near/in sensory garden

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-No timeline set yet for signage, as fundraising will continue after park opens, need for temporary sponsor sign.

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Fundraising Update and Discussion (Friends of Roberts Field- FoRF)

- 2 grant submissions so far, a total of 5 planned. Looking for an ADA dermatologist to signoff a grant
- UTube movie/TV spot done by John needs to get as much "reach" as possible

Community Build Update and Discussion

- FoRF meeting with Meghan O'Brien recently and they are making headway

RFAC charged with creating maintenance plan. Needs to work with DPW

Next meeting dates set for May 2 and May 21 same time/place

Meeting minutes from 2/12 and both sessions on 2/20 voted on and unanimously approved. Will need someone to provide minutes from 4/4 meeting Denille was not at due to travel schedule

Motion to adjourn seconded and meeting ended at 9:10pm.