

Approved 7/10/18

Roberts Field Advisory Committee (RFAC) Meeting Minutes

**RECEIVED** 2018-08-08 8:36 AM  
TOWN OF CHELMSFORD PATRICIA E. DZURIS TOWN CLERK

Date: 5/2/18

Time: 7pm

Location: Chelmsford Town Offices Room 205 50 Billerica Rd Chelmsford, MA

Committee Attendees: Bill Askenburg, Elisabeth Bobrow, Marcus Bush, Adelle Stavis, Denille Ruth

Chelmsford Telemedia recorded and broadcast on Verizon 37/Comcast 39

Link to Agenda (prepared by Bill): [link to be posted at robertsfield.org](#)

Link to presentation (prepared by Bill): <http://www.robertsfield.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/May-2-2018-RFAC-Meeting-Presentation-Document.pdf>

Link to Meeting Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N1lwxOOmhsc>

Bill called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

No public input.

DPW Update:

- Previous questions/concerns with fencing line still alive due to observations at work site. Elisabeth to clarify with Steve, specifically regarding fence line around pear tree
- Metal benches were selected by DPW, assuming they have already been ordered despite hopes they would have been wood. DPW does have old wood benches and picnic tables in their possession that could be broken down and refinished.
- Girl Scout troop that committed to the buddy bench could give money to order the metal one DPW selected or build a wooded one- their choice.

Natural Play area Design (Terry from Weston Nurseries)

- Terry outlined how/why he came up with the past and current designs for the natural play area and listened to feedback. His design can't be finalized until the shade structure pad is poured, as it will impact design. His focus was to make sure kids felt a sense of adventure moving around/through the area. This conflicts with direct sight lines of parents everywhere within/through due to plants final heights so he is trying to balance these opposing forces.
- Possible need/desire to rename this area (sensory garden, garden, etc.?)
- Still concern regarding critical root zone of tree in this area (Jim Martin & some RFAC members). Terry has worked to protect and will continue to shift things around to come up with the best possible solution.

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-Terry will scale area based on kinetic sculpture height in center so things are proportional. Adelle and Denille insistent artist donating time and the sculpture itself should have as much liberty as possible.

-Current estimated cost \$40k. Weston donating time for design and plants.

-Chelmsford MA Rocks "box" portable?

State Reps Jim Arciero & Tom Golden joined the RFAC at the microphones to hear more about the project and offer support going forward. Not much with playground build in terms of legislative asks, but may be able to help more with phase 2 (fields, pond dredging). Bill to send them current list of companies the Friends of Roberts Field (FoRF) non-profit has asked, will ask for sponsorships & support and a list of "asks".

#### Signage

-PVC plastic painted with epoxy most durable option.

-Heritage Construction offered to build sign kiosk (in addition to "covered bridge entrance") and an Eagle Scout to build it with their supervision.

-Costs for sign and bridge not in \$450k town appropriated monies

-Denille to provide a draft of the "story" and "rules" at next RFAC meeting

#### Brick Pathway

-Bill hoped to *maybe* space out engraved bricks and make a larger brick pathway. Denille made a motion to vote on this issue after debate regarding costs/best use of funds.

Seconded by Elisabeth. 4/5 RFAC members voted in favor (Bill was opposed) for the smallest brick pathway run to keep cost of empty "filler" bricks and installation minimal.

#### Fundraising Update

-Previous versions of the RFAC raised ~\$12k in town account.

-FoRF (total ~\$47k)

- Has submitted 4 grant applications

- Has raised ~\$10k through corporate sponsorships, equipment sponsorships & GoFundMe

- Has raided ~\$25k in brick sales

#### Community Build

-Denille to run insurance/waiver issue by Town Manager (TM)

-Denille provided a draft of "Call Out Letter" to FoRF board as part of her role there and asked it be shared with RFAC but not all FoRF received so no draft to discuss

- Need to get this out ASAP to public and publish sign up site with tool list & other needs

#### Next Meeting

-Next meeting set for May 22 at 7pm in the town offices room 206

Approval of previous meeting minutes

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-Adelle made a motion to approve all pending meeting minutes (not currently any for site walk on 4/29 or 4/4- Denille notified RFAC ahead of time she was unable to attend these), seconded and unanimously approved

Adelle made a motion to adjourn, seconded and unanimously approved at 9:30pm.