

MINUTES
Twin Brook Advisory Committee
Town Council Chambers
Tuesday, October 4, 2011

6:30 p.m. Call to Order

Present:

Chairman John Leavitt
Member Joe Loring
Member Iwona Tarling
Member Jackie Stowell
Chris Bolduc
Peter Bingham

I. Approval of the Minutes

II. To have a Discussion on Park Usage

Report by Peter Bingham:

Park is busy all week with Cumberland and North Yarmouth Kids.

On the Greely side there is football practice almost every day.

About 600 kids just through our program (Soccer and Running)

Over 400 Kids participate in the Cumberland North Yarmouth Recreation Soccer programs
There are 13 soccer configurations for different ages and groups
Staff is just straight out at this time of year maintaining the fields. The rain makes grass grow which requires continual mowing and the staff also has to redo the lines more often. But we have received great feedback on the condition of the Park and we are always happy to hear that.

Rec Youth Running Program has 130 kids; grades 1st-5th grade. It takes place on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays. There are an additional 50 Kids in pre-K program.

Ms. Tarling – Walks her dog and noticed a Hole in the path up the hill – will this cause a problem for runners?

Mr. Bingham – Coaches noticed and marked it to make it safe for the runners as they do before any meets.

Mr. Bolduc – It will eventually be filled in by Park staff.

Ms. Tarling – Is the stream ever cleaned out? It is dirt that runs into the stream that the town puts down on the Hill Trail? Is it the Neagle stream?

Mr. Bolduc – DEP issue, we can't just clean out waterways. We now put mulch down to prevent any unwanted run off – not sure where Ivana sees the problem but we'll check out some of the streams in the area to ensure all is being done that can be.

Ms. Tarling – Tree down on the Wilderness trail hasn't been removed. It's on the trail over to the left.

Chris – Okay, we'll check it out.

Question – What's going on with the Cement Culvert?

Mr. Bolduc – DEP said we can repair on our own by 10/15. We will do it in House in the Spring .

Ms. Tarling – Well pipe near the culvert is still broken. Why can't a well company come in and cap? The area is totally flooded. I can't walk down there without getting my boots wet. It looks like someone ran over it and broke it.

Chris – Monitoring well testing pipes. That area is on the biggest aquifer in the state. We'll look into it.

Mr. Leavitt – Back to Peter and the Park Usage; Cross Country season- Do other groups use and notify you of use?

Mr. Bingham– Yes. We sent out memo to schools athletic administrators and it has had positive feedback and it worked well. It has made park scheduling more manageable, no double bookings.

III. Project Updates by Christopher Bolduc

- Discussed the Culvert already
- Eagle Scout project – Done Looks goods. Mr. Bolduc is pleased with the way it came out, it is very functional. Everyone likes the way it came out and it fits in well.
- Berm was completed. We received a grant of additional Trees for the Park.
 - By outer fields added 4 more trees
 - Trees in the middle
 - Trees in the access road to the Maintenance Building
 - 2 Trees on the Greely Road side near softball field.
- Community Garden
 - Next Meeting Karyn Marden will be here to speak
- Horse Trails – in process of posting more signs. Not too many issues
- Eagle Scout – Proposal for storage shed. 1st proposal was sent back for revisions and he will come back with another draft. We recognize the need to make it moveable so it can be by the garden during the season and out of the field during the winter. It is very common to have an area for tool storage at a community garden to keep it organized.

IV. Cross Cycle racing in the Park.

Mr. Leavitt – Ms. Witte has forwarded and email regarding the cling in the park. Ivana has seen them racing through the park. Mr. Bolduc has been in contact and is working with the group to see if

scheduling issues can be worked out. As he looks into it, he will report back to the Committee his findings. Is it one group or several? Why are they using Twin Brook? Ms. Tarling passed on information she received from Ms. Witte that someone was at LLBean and was handing out Twin Brook information to cyclists. Mr. Bolduc and Mr. Bingham requested that everyone *please* communicate any new information as soon as they hear it or have it so they can address it in a timely manner. Ms. Stowell doesn't see unusual damage from biking, not any more than walking or running damage done lately due to the rain. David Brink owns Cycle Mania and may have information. Are the cyclists from Portland Cycling? It is probably several different groups. Mr. Bolduc said the question isn't about biking in general; it is about racing bikes through the trails at unsafe times. Mr. Leavitt wondered if the biking rules need to be tweaked.

Mr. Leavitt said the Park Rules say no biking when trails aren't firm and not during running events.

Mr. Bolduc – We are considering putting a White Board, or something similar, to place notice of events to give park users reminders of when fields or trails are being used for scheduled events. The idea is to direct people to use other areas of the park for the limited amount of time that an event is scheduled. It is a reasonable request for a short period of time. The wetness of the area is a concern at the moment.

V. Fee Schedule

Mr. Leavitt - Originally this group was supposed to set fees. There are many options such as registering to use park or maybe stickers? Figure out who is using the park and this would help us get a better idea.

Mr. Bolduc - But staff is working on budgeting and billing. Much more complicated than was originally assumed - School vs. Recreation vs. Residents vs. Non-Residents etc. There is much to work out. Looking for the group to take the information the Town comes up with and work on Group fees from there.

Mr. Leavitt – Can you get some information for the group to work from?

Mr. Bolduc – We have most of it, it is just what you want to do with this information.

Mr. Bingham – There is a huge cost in setting up fields for some of the events but timing is everything. The second setup doesn't take as much if it comes on top of another event.

Ms. Tarling – Does out of town teams pay and how? If it is not much, that is not right.

Mr. Bolduc- You have to have the whole picture – Is there some give and take if a group is paying for additional work at a field?

Ms. Tarling - What about the Ski Club?

Mr. Bolduc – The town never gets paid by the Ski Club. We pay the electric and gas and maintain the equipment that the ski club purchased. Tax payers get the benefit of it. Ski club owns the sled.

Mr. Leavitt – Folks from away should pay for usage.

Mr. Bingham – We do have fee structures from other towns so as we look into alternatives we have a reference to work from.

Mr. Leavitt – We need to keep all the options in mind and be prudent about what we do. Iron Rangers are still not up?

Mr. Bolduc – We just ran into a hitch in getting the type that we need, we are still planning on doing this year round. We will be making some very soon.

Ms. Stowell – Any chance there could be a fence between the farm and the wilderness trail? Am I the only one that avoids that area? My dog is not dangerous but there are so many things at the back of the farm that attract dogs and mine does tend to want to run over there.

Ms. Tarling – Where would it be and how far would it go?

Ms. Stowell – I don't know how far the property lines goes, it probably isn't practical...

Mr. Leavitt – I don't know how the Fowlers would feel about a fence. And who would pay for something like that?

Ms. Tarling – Why is there a path mowed from the farm down over the hill to the culvert area?

Mr. Bolduc – I think we mow it for aesthetics

Ms. Tarling – Walks with someone who has to leash there dog every time they go by there.

Ms. Stowell – I can see by the discussion that this is not a practical thing to want

Mr. Bolduc – approval process plus estimates – huge expense

Mr. Leavitt – It' good to talk about any issues that are on your mind and this is the forum for discussion. We'll plan to meet in November and Karyn Marden should be there.

VI. Next Meeting

November 1, 2011

VII. Adjournment

7:50pm