

MINUTES

Twin Brook Advisory Committee
Town Council Chambers
Tuesday, May 3, 2011

6:30 p.m. Call to Order

Present:

Chairman John Leavitt
Councilor Steve Moriarty
Member Joe Loring
Member Iwona Tarling
Member Theresa Maloney-Kelley
Member Anne Witte
Member Jackie Stowell
Chris Bolduc, Director of Public Services
William Shane, Town Manager
Peter Bingham, Program Director
Laura Neleski, Public Services Admin.
Ryan Pinchon, Boy Scout

I. Approval of Minutes

March 1, 2011

Motion by Jackie Stowell, second by Joe Loring, to accept the minutes as presented.

VOTE: 6-0 Unanimous Passage

II. Ryan Pinchon, Boy Scout Presentation

Ryan Pinchon led off his presentation with a photo of the old pallets that currently make up the 'bridge' near the shelter in Twin Brooks. For his Eagle Scout Project, Ryan explained that he would like to make a 48 foot long bridge, in three sections, with railings. The purpose of the bridge would be to assist the staff with their work, protect the fragile wet area under the bridge and to assist the flow of foot traffic from the fields to the shelter. The costs of the bridge are estimated at \$1,200. He and his Troop would be willing to fund raise approximately \$500 to \$700 to assist in the expense.

Ms. Stowell loved the look of the bridge

Ms. Tarling disliked the railings

Ms. Witte thought it was visually too large.

General conversation continued with Ryan Pinchon answering questions regarding his design. Mr. Bolduc and Town Manager Shane contributed that Public Works could contribute to the footings when the appropriate type was decided on.

Mr. Bolduc said there is up to \$700 in the budget for this project if we decide to go forward with it.

Town Manager Shane suggested he design the bridge without the railings as they were not required at that low height. He thought that that a 6x6 or 6x8 edging would be sufficient and not detract from the overall view of the park.

Ryan, Mr. Bolduc and Town Manager Shane need to meet on sight to discuss grading and footing specifics.

Ryan explained the rest of the approval process and hopes to get the approvals needed to do the project by the end of August.

Ryan to bring revised plan to next meeting.

III. Reorganization of the Twin Brook Policies and Rules

Chairman John Leavitt discussed the reasoning of the new order of the Rules & Policies; Making of the new sections and locating the Parking Policy at the end of the document.

Mr. Leavitt fielded some general questions regarding the location of the Twin Brook Policies and Rules from which discussion ensued regarding making the document more accessible; such as posting on the Kiosks and on the web site.

Motion by Anne Witte, seconded by Joe Loring, to accept the proposed changes in the order of the Policies and Procedures.

VOTE: 6 – 0 Unanimous passage

Lightning Policy

Chairman John Leavitt pointed out the new verbiage in Twin Brook Policies and Rules section 1, Number 9 regarding the proposed Lightning Policy.

Ms. Stowell wanted to know where the need for the policy came from.

Mr. Bolduc explained that Both Schools and Little League already have these policies and that it made sense for Twin Brooks to formalize our policy as well.

Short discussion ensued.

Motion by Joe Loring, seconded by Jackie Stowell, to accept the new Lightning Policy into the Twin Brook Policy and Rules.

VOTE: 6 – 0 Unanimous Passage

IV. New Business

Horses

Ms. Tarling wanted to discuss horse usage in the park and where they are allowed.

Ms. Witte showed where the perimeter of field area was and discussion followed about the general vagueness of the wording in the policy.

Ms. Tarling discussed seeing horses on trails and seeing damage in the park from horse usage.

Mr. Moriarty suggested we identify appropriate areas and think about signage. He wondered if this was or was not a large problem.

Town Manager Shane reminded group that horses will continue to be allowed and the park has over 250 acres for public use. The group should think about seasonal paths, access, wetlands, gravel roads and the best usage for all.

Ms. Witte also commented on trails for use and the wetlands and damage.

Mr. Bolduc suggested making this topic a separate meeting where we can discuss postings, rules, signage and trails. He indicated that there were only one or two documented past problems. Discussion indicated that most participants had only witnessed one or two problems over the year although one member has seen several problems lately.

Mr. Shane suggested all interested parties (Twin Brook Users, Committee Members, Town Representatives and Horse Owners) meet to put out these questions: What is needed, What we can do, Where middle ground can be reached to keep the park in good shape and users content.

Conversation continued and most agreed that we need to meet to discuss just this topic.

Miscellaneous Issues

Publicizing Twin Brook - Chairman John Leavitt asked to have some older minutes posted on the Towns Web Site

Ms. Neleski agreed to locate and post past minutes.

Ms. Neleski also agreed to post the Agendas and Meeting Times on the Web Site.

Mr. Leavitt asked about the Baseball signs and Mr. Shane indicated the topic had been resolved.

Mr. Shane said Nesting Signs need to go up.

Mr. Bolduc will take care of this.

Ms. Tarling wanted someone to look into improving the pet waste bag dispensers

Mr. Bolduc will look into this.

Ms. Tarling wanted to know where the donation boxes went.

It was explained that historically they were only put up for winter and to assist with winter trail grooming. Further discussion resulted in a request to leave them up all year, perhaps with new signage to reflect the need to pitch in to help maintain the parks.

Mr. Bolduc will take care of this.

V. Next Meeting June 7, 2011 at 6:30p.m.

VI. Adjournment

Motion by Anne Witte, seconded by Theresa Maloney-Kelley, to adjourn.

VOTE: 7 – 0 Unanimous Passage

Time: 8:20p.m.