

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

November 1, 2021

Town Hall, 139 Main Street, Rowley, MA

7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Cliff Pierce; Vice Chairman Deana M. P. Ziev; Clerk Robert Snow; David Petersen; Joe Perry (Town Administrator Deborah Eagan)

PUBLIC ATTENDEES: Pamela Jacobson – Rowley Public Library; Janet Peabody – Rowley Public Library; Karen Ziemplak – Rowley Public Library; Sieglinde Aigner-Crooks – Friends of the Library

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Pierce called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He said the meeting is being video and audio recorded by Rowley Community Media.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

7:05 P.M. TO 7:10 p.m. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Request from Town Clerk Catie McClenaghan to appoint Election Workers

Chairman Pierce read the request from Town Clerk Catie McClenaghan to appoint Election Workers

Bob Snow made a motion to appoint the Election Workers as requested, Deana Ziev second, all in favor – aye (4-0). Dave Petersen - ABSTAINED

NEW BUSINESS

1. Letter from the Friends of the Rowley Public Library to set up a pollinator garden on a strip of land adjacent to the parking lot and Cemetery stone wall.

Chairman Pierce read the following:

The Board needs to review the attached letter from Sieglinde Aigner-Crooks the President of the Friends of the Rowley Public Library regarding revitalizing a strip of land that is overgrown with weeds and invasive plants. How does the Board wish to proceed with this request?

Pierce said he doesn't see this as a request for funds. He said they want to get someone to clean out the invasive species and use a rotor tiller to turn the ground over,

and this isn't a big request. Petersen said the Highway and Cemetery Departments cleared the land four to five years ago and these departments could do this work again.

Bob Snow made a motion to authorize the project with the land to be cleared by the Highway Department and planting to be done in the spring, Deana Ziev second, all in favor – aye (5-0).

Sieglinde Aigner-Crooks said Maura has been helpful with the plant sales and weeding. She said this area can be used by area schools as a pollinator garden.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Update on the Playground Improvements Project

Chairman Pierce read the following:

The Playground Project Team has been meeting to discuss a plan to improvement Kid's Kingdom at Eiras Park.

The Team has identified a number of issues that need to be addressed, such as: removing the current swing set and replacing it with two separate swing sets – one for young children and one for older children that includes two baby swings and a handicap swing; installing the new swings in an area within the playground that has adequate setbacks; installing unused equipment; and providing handicap accessibility routes to all pieces of equipment. This last item is the most significant item to be addressed. The existing wood chips do not meet the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board and ADA standards. Accessible routes must be stable, firm slip resistant and maintained with materials that ensure continued slip resistance, according to the Massachusetts Office on Disability. The Team would like to explore a playground surface similar to the Pine Grove School surface. There are also drainage issues at the site.

The Team is asking the Board's approval to get proposals from firms with playground experience on the following: assess the existing conditions with special attention to playground safety requirements, handicap accessibility, and drainage; make recommendations on compliance issues; prepare construction cost estimates, and plans and specifications; and to provide bidding assistance and construction administration.

There are also some other tasks that need to be addressed soon regarding the shed adjacent to the playground that houses the well equipment:

- *Remove the tree hanging over the large shed near playground*
- *Purchase gravel for the area around the shed*
- *Hire a carpenter to replace the roof and make repairs to the shed*

Vice Chairwoman Deana Ziev is on the project team and can provide further information. Debbie is asking the Board to authorize her to get proposals from firms with playground experience and to issue purchase orders for the three items listed above.

Ziev said we need someone with background knowledge about items such as how far away equipment needs to be from tree lines and other equipment. She said there is a lot of damaged equipment behind the shed and David Zizza is on top of the repairs needed at the shed.

Dave Petersen made a motion to authorize Debbie to get proposals from firms with playground experience and to issue purchase orders to remove the tree hanging over the large shed near playground; purchase gravel for the area around the shed and hire a carpenter to replace the roof and make repairs to the shed, Bob Snow second, all in favor – aye (5-0).

MINUTES

- October 25, 2021

Bob Snow made a motion to approve the minutes of October 25, 2021, Deana Ziev second, all in favor – aye (5-0).

Perry said he walked the High and Middle School areas, the school is in tough shape. Pierce asked if the other towns support this plan and asked what the next step is. Perry said the towns had representatives at the site visit, the water damage is incredible. He said Triton is waiting for Newbury and Salisbury to take a vote about whether they will put in for first step.

Snow said the heavy plastic bags at Shaw's are reusable, and he recommended adding an announcement to the agenda to remind people to bring their reusable bags into the store.

ANNOUNCEMENT

- Rowley Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day will be held on Saturday, November 6, 2021 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Rowley Highway Department, 40 Independent Street. More information is available on the Town's website or by calling the Rowley Health Department at 948-2231

ADJOURN

Bob Snow made a motion to adjourn, Deana Ziev seconded, all in favor – aye (5-0).

Meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Lydon
Assistant Town Administrator

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Request from Town Clerk Catie McClenaghan to appoint Election Workers

2. Meeting memo regarding New Business #1: Letter from the Friends of the Rowley Public Library to set up a pollinator garden on a strip of land adjacent to the parking lot and Cemetery stone wall.
3. Letter from the Friends of the Rowley Public Library to set up a pollinator garden on a strip of land adjacent to the parking lot and Cemetery stone wall.
4. Meeting memo regarding Old Business #1: Update on the Playground Improvements Project
5. Massachusetts Office On Disability Blog titled, "Accessible Routes in Play Areas" pages one and two
6. 521 CMR: Architectural Access Board 19:00 Recreational Facilities
7. Document titled ADA and Playground Accessibility
8. Page 5 of 27 from inspection report of Eiras Park by Playground Inspections of New England LLC
9. Page 2 of 27 from inspection report of Eiras Park by Playground Inspections of New England LLC
10. Page 9 of 27 from inspection report of Eiras Park by Playground Inspections of New England LLC
11. Page 10 of 27 from inspection report of Eiras Park by Playground Inspections of New England LLC
12. Tire Swing information and two photos
13. Shed/Snack Shack information and two photos
14. Draft minutes of October 25, 2021