



Office of Board of Selectmen

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Selectmen's Meeting

Monday, March 7, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

Belmont Mill, Tioga Meeting Room

Present were Chairman Ruth Mooney, Selectman Jon Pike, Selectman Claude Patten, Jr., TA Jeanne Beaudin, Assistant TA Alicia Jipson, DPW Director Craig Clairmont, General Assistance Director Donna Cilley, Fire Chief Mike Newhall, Assistant Fire Chief Deb Black, and members of the community in support of the Aaron Roberts Skate Park.

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Selectman Claude Patten, Jr. moved the minutes of the meeting held on February 14, 2022 as written; seconded by Selectman Jon Pike, and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Jon Pike moved the minutes of the meeting held on February 28, 2022 as written; seconded by Selectman Claude Patten, Jr., and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Engagement Letter with DTC Attorneys at Law- TA Beaudin discussed that Comcast has expressed an interest with coming into the area. We are currently in the process of negotiating the franchise agreement with Breezeline. The engagement letter is with DTC Attorneys so that they can review the proposal from Comcast and negotiate on our behalf. Selectman Mooney asked if this will mean that we can allow both cable companies to be in town? TA Beaudin responded that yes, this will allow us to have competition between cable companies in town, and that competition is good.

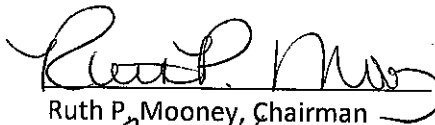
Aaron Roberts Skate Park- present in the audience were many members of the community who were present to show support for the Aaron Roberts Skate Park. Students and friends of Aarons spoke about their memories of Aaron and how this skate park would honor his memory and get the kids in the community more involved with the outdoors and get off their phones. Audience members also discussed possible locations, concluding that the ideal location should be in a public area, that has easy access, or where an existing park already is. The committee in support of this is looking at an area 8,000 sq. in size. One member stated that Laconia's skate park on average spends \$300 to \$500 in maintenance costs annually. Amanda Osmer stated that the committee has been at this for 1.5 year now. 158 people signed the petition at Old Home Day and they have 1,000 signatures on the online petition showing support for the skate park. Mayor Andrew Hosmer of Laconia sent a letter of support, which Amanda read. Chaos & Kindness have put their support behind the committee and will help with fundraising and support. Grappone Auto has also committed to a donation. The committee stated that

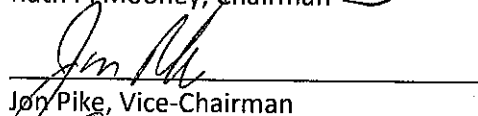
funding is not the issue, it is more so a location. The kids will then pick it up from there. TA Beaudin discussed that the 2 parcels of land in which they are talking about are held in perpetuity as they were constructed with LWCF grant funds. The State of NH Division of Parks and Recreation as well as the National Park Service would need to review the plan for the skate park that would include its intended use. We would also need from your insurance company, proof of insurance. Because this will be privately owned and being built with private funds. The committee clarified that they do not intend to be the owners of the park. They plan on funding the construction of the park and 10 years of maintaining the park. There hopes are that if and when we hire a Park n Rec Director they will oversee the park. The skate park will not be privately owned it will just be privately funded. Members of the community in the surrounding neighborhood in the proposed location of Sargent Street, spoke in opposition of not wanting the skate park back at Sargent Park. Stating that they are all for having one just not back in that location, also noting that in the past illegal activity was witnessed often at the park and seemed to bring a "rougher "crowd. The park was not a friendly inviting place as it is now, and fear it will become a place they fear bringing their children to. When they are skating, they don't stick to the park, they ride up and down the streets at all hours of the night. Discussion was had in seeing if the school would allow the park on their land. M. Tursi spoke that it had been brought up to him however it had not been before the school board. The front open space at the school is being reserved for possible expansion. Further discussion was had on looking at the open land by the Fire Department. A small portion of that is State owned and special permission would need to be obtained to allow a foot path to access the park. TA Beaudin suggested to the group if they had a surveyor in mind whom would lend their services for free to give them an idea if topographically the area was feasible to build on for the skate park and go from there.

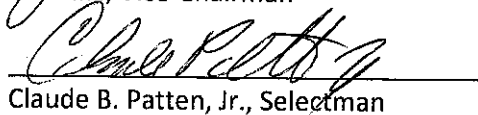
Selectmen Pro Temp-- TA Beaudin commented at the last meeting we discussed the need for the Board to pick Pro-temps for the day of the elections. Selectmen Jon Pike elected Dennis Grimes, Selectman Ruth Mooney elected Marsha Campbell, and Selectman Claude Patten will be there and will not need a pro-temp.

HealthTrust Wellness Funds- This year Alicia as the Wellness Coordinator received a sum of \$500.00 from HealthTrust, need a motion to accept those funds. Selectman Pike motioned to accept the grant funds in accordance with RSA 31:95-b in the amount of \$500.00 from HealthTrust, seconded by Selectman Patten and the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.


Ruth P. Mooney, Chairman


Jon Pike, Vice-Chairman


Claude B. Patten, Jr., Selectman