

**St. Albans City Parks Commission
Minutes of Meeting
Monday, May 4, 2015
Barlow Street Community Center**

A meeting of the St. Albans City Parks Commission was held on Monday, May 4, 2015, in the Barlow Community Center at 6:00 pm.

Commission Members Present: Jeff Young, Barbara Weinstein, Peter Chevalier (Chair), Brianna Haenke, Angie Sturm, Wendy Stous & Joan McGinn.

Commission Members Absent: None absent.

Visitors Present: See attendance sheet.

Staff Present: Kelly Viens, Director of Recreation.

1. Call to Order, Peter Chevalier, Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Update on Playground Grant Presentation.

Ms. Viens responded that the commission was awarded the grant money and hopes to receive the federal money around July 1st. Ms. Haenke mentioned that she was approached by someone who asked if the commission had considered disabled access for children. Ms. Viens responded that there are a number of points of entry and the design exceeds all recommendations for ADA accessibility. Ms. Sturm asked Ms. Viens for the name of the federal grant. Ms. Viens responded that it is the Vermont Land & Water Conservation Fund grant for approximately \$42,000 and is a matching grant.

3. Review of Previous Discussions – Next Action to be Taken.

Ms. Viens explained that the commission has identified areas of need in the parks and asked if they wanted to narrow their list down to 3 priorities for each park to submit for council recommendation. Mr. Chevalier recommended working on narrowing down priorities for one park at a time. Ms. Weinstein recommended beginning with Taylor Park first since there are priorities that are time sensitive. Ms. Haenke noted that it would help to revisit the priority list that the commission first developed. Mr. Chevalier read aloud the following priority list submitted by Jeff Young for Taylor Park:

- Round Garden – no new additions anticipated.
- Wild garden – new perennials, add compost, add annuals, and reset stones (cost estimate is \$200 to include seeds and plugs to grow annuals/perennials at Hudak's during winter).

Mr. Young noted that in years past, money for plants came from a Park fund which had a balance of \$3,000. He added that this year, the funds are being redirected to the fountain. Ms. McGinn asked Mr. Young where the plants are typically purchased. Mr. Young responded that they can purchase them at Fairfax Perennials at a wholesale price.

- Church Street Garden - repair fence, weed, add mulch and compost, tag and map plants. Needs require 20 – 25 cubic yards of mulch, 6 - 10 cubic yards of compost and \$200 for replacement of plants. Fence is in need of minor repairs. Kelly Wakefield will donate 150 plant tags and need 300 additional tags.
- Children's Garden

Ms. McGinn commented that she is not in support of creating a children's garden in Taylor Park because she doesn't believe there is enough manpower to manage an additional garden. Mr. Young commented

that he would like to develop a theme for a Children's Garden and do a presentation. Ms. McGinn stated that she is not opposed to the idea of a Children's Garden but opposed to one being located in Taylor Park.

- Cabling of trees (especially sugar maple across from TD Bank showing signs of stress), pruning and stump removal.
- Pruning of crab apple trees.
- Remove 2 forsythia shrubs and lilacs on south entry. Add to Day Lily garden.
- Aeration, compost, over-seeding and additional and additional water to green.

Mr. Young noted that he spoke with Mr. Robtoy who has agreed to extend the water to the Civil War memorial. Ms. Viens commented that Public Works is typically more than happy to help complete these types of requests when accompanied by a schedule.

(Side A of tape ended – Side B did not record anything.)

4. Consider Approval of 2/19/15 & 4/6/15 Meeting Minutes (D&V).

5. Other Business.

6. Adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristen Smith
Administrative Coordinator