

Recreation Committee Public Workshop Minutes January 2010
1/7/10
6:30 pm

Attendance: Jeremy Griffus, Chairman
Selectman Roger Coutu
Sue Laroche
Rupert Cote
Mick Regan
Dave Yates
Keith Bowen
Bob Iannaco
Carl Dubois

The workshop was called to order at 6:30 pm with Pledge of Allegiance.

December Minutes

Minutes were not presented for acceptance.

Public Input

Provided in workshop format and can be viewed at
www.hudsonctv.com/CablecastVOD/1358-1-RecComm01-07-10.wmv

Report of Officers

Report of officers not provided due to workshop format.

Report of Sub Committees

Report of Sub Committees not provided due to workshop format.

Director's Report

Directors Report not provided due to workshop format.

Correspondence

Provided in workshop format and can be viewed at
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Old Business

a) Eayrs Pond Project

Jeremy Griffus recapped what he had heard throughout the course of the workshop and felt that the support for a park was limited. He further explained that the committee has no control or authority to make a decision regarding the sale of the property. The role of the committee is to determine if the committee wants to move forward with the process of developing a park on the Eayrs pond property. Due to the general negative response received from the local residents Jeremy will not support continuing with the park at the prescribed location.

Bob Iannaco agreed with Jeremy Griffus that there was not enough support to build a park/playground. Further, it was never the committees intention of developing a conservation park. He will vote against the plan.

Rupert Cote found that most of the input was not completely for or against but more concerned at the possibility of the property being sold. He indicated that the committees role was determine if a park should be placed on this property and based on the public input he does not feel there is sufficient local support to move forward.

Keith Bowen will vote against the park proposal due to the lack of support from the neighborhood. However, the ides for walking trails and a more passive approach for the land did appeal to him. Keith would like to make a recommendation to the Selectman that would allow the neighborhood to form a group to determine the best use of the land.

Mick Regan will vote against the plan. Per his count there were 8 residents against the proposal, 1 for and 1 undecided. The committees goal is to expand recreational options in the south end of town. Due to the size of the financial commitment the committee needs to find another location to best support recreational options.

Carl Dubois understands the arguments made by the residents and believes the committee could evaluate the idea of a conservation park at a later date. For the present plan he will vote no.

Sue Laroche understands the feelings of all the neighbors. As a member of the recreation committee her task is to provide recreation for the town. She does not understand the negative reaction to having a place for recreation which would provide a safer alternative to walking on the narrow streets in the area. A scaled down version of the plan still makes sense. She still believes a park in the south end of town is necessary and that changes to the plan could be made to accommodate the residents' concerns. Further, she reiterated that this is not just a park for the local neighborhood; it is a park for the surrounding developments. She will vote yes to provide more recreational options to the residents of Hudson.

Keith Bowen entered a motion to not continue with the proposed park plan at Eayrs pond. Motion seconded by Rupert Cote. Motion carries 6-1(Sue Laroche) with 1 abstention (Selectman Coutu).

Jeremy Griffus indicated that the committee would submit a letter to the Selectman indicating the committees decision to not pursue a park at the Eayrs pond property.

New Business

New Business not provided due to workshop format.

Closing Remarks

Closing Remarks not provided due to workshop format.

Jeremy Griffus moved to adjourn the public meeting at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Horton