

Kelley Park Committee

March 13, 2023

Meeting Minutes

Present: Jack Doucette, Dorcas Gordon, Les Dion

Guest: Doug Williams

Meeting Minutes January 2023: The minutes were tabled as we did not have a quorum.

TTCC Facilities Committee Presentation: Doug Williams from the Tapply-Thompson Community Center had requested to speak with the KPC regarding the TTCC plans to build a new building. Doug brought the group up to speed on their purchase of the 171 North Main Street property. He explained that before we move forward on building on that property he wanted to speak with us regarding the piece of Kelley Park that has the maintenance shed and community garden. Doug has spoken with Pierre Couture of SAU4 regarding a potential land swap of their new property for the bus property. He is here to see if we would consider the possibility of the town letting them combine the bus property and the old Preble property.

The goal would be to have the new building right on Kelley Park so that it could be accessed from the park without crossing roads/sidewalks for the kids. His thought was that it could be built in a way that the basement would have an entry garage onto the park that would allow the storage of the town equipment.

Dorcas said that it is an interesting proposal but that she would not want to see the town lose part of the park land. Discussion continued about whether the School District would be willing to allow the Town to take back the property that currently has the basketball court/skate park area on it. This property had belonged to the Town but was given to the District years ago. Doug and Dorcas agreed to set up a meeting with Pierre Couture to see if the District has any plans for that property. If they don't they can see if this is something that could happen. It would give the Town access to Kelley Park off of Lake Street which was part of our strategic planning for the park. They will try to set up a meeting this week as Doug leaves for three weeks next week.

Encumbered Funds: Les reported that the Select Board had signed the contract with Eagle Pond Studios and would be making the deposit from the Kelley Park encumbered funds.

Review of Updated Building Plan: We have an interior design poster for the building at Kelley Park. We will be bringing both of these to town meeting to display. We discussed potential funding options that may be available for this type of project.

Groundskeeper Position: It was agreed that we should begin advertising for this 20 hour/week position in the hopes that we can fill it this year. Les will follow up with Christina Goodwin on this.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie Dion