

Skatepark Site Selection Committee Minutes Draft

Wednesday May 22, 2014

Meeting called to order: 5:26 PM

Members present: Marty Fitzgerald, Betsy Gentile, Elizabeth McLoughlin, Jacob Roberts, Dan Sontag, Andrea Watkins

Others present: Andrew Clark, Jeff Clark, Melissa Clarke, Patrick Clark, Wendy Creager, Matt Mann, Les Montgomery, Simrin Socci, Tom Robertson, Francine Vallario, Howard Weiss-Tisman, Patty Fitzgerald

Agenda:

1. Public Participation

None

2. Approve Minutes from May 1, 2014 meeting

Motion: Approve minutes from May 7, 2014 meeting

Vote: Motion carried

Resolved: Minutes from the meeting on May 7, 2014 approved without modification

3. Public Input via E-Mail – skateparkideas@brattleboro.org

One e-mail showed the results of taking the high and low scores out of the site grading numbers and it confirmed that doing so didn't make radical changes to the results. Another e-mail questioned the criteria used for evaluating "safety" and "environmental impacts". An e-mail from Carol Lolatte to Betsy Gentile outlined the process that will take place at the June 9, 2014 meeting of Recreation and Parks when the results of the SSSC work will be presented. It will be at this meeting that the public will be encouraged to voice their thoughts about the final selections.

4. Pros & Cons of Top Ranked Sites

It was decided to take the top 4 sites to present to Recreation and Parks. Betsy shared an important fact about the BAMS site, which ranked #4. The school superintendent has pointed out that a public skatepark facility located on the school campus would compromise school security measures and would prohibit the use of the park during school hours. It was then removed as a possible site and replaced with the 5th ranking site, located on upper Living Memorial Park.

1. Elm Street Parking Lot (1,819)
2. Crowell Lot (1,518)
3. Living Memorial Park by the pool (1,458)
4. Living Memorial Park upper hill (1,428)

After a discussion of how to determine the pros and cons of the four sites, with suggestions being offered from the public as well as board members, it was decided to chart the subtotal scores for each criteria category of the members present. Members shared their thoughts and reasoning for scores that varied greatly from the average. This information helped create another set of charts showing the pros and cons of each location.

5. Presentation to Rec & Parks Board

It was decided that the charts would be summarized by Betsy Gentile and distributed individually to SSSC members via e-mail. Members could add further comments if they chose to and return them to her. She will prepare an executive summary of the SSSC's work and findings for

presentation at the June 9, 2014 meeting of Recreation and Parks. Since she also serves on that board, the vice-chair of SSSC, Elizabeth McLoughlin, will make the presentation.

6. Next Meeting

Monday, June 9, 2014 at 6 P.M. at the Gibson Aiken Center

7. Other Business

None

Meeting Adjourned: @7:05 PM

Submitted by Patty Fitzgerald