

PARKS COMMISSION AGENDA

**November 4, 2014, 5:30 PM
Berlin Town Hall Conference Room**

1. Approval of Minutes of October 7, 2014
2. Old Business
 - a) Henry Park
 - i) Bleachers
 - b) Just Walk Berlin – November 8, 2014 (rain date November 15), 9-10 AM
 - c) Mural Ribbon-Cutting November 8, 2014 at 11 AM
3. Berlin Youth Program Update
4. Other

MINUTES – PARKS COMMISSION
October 7, 2014

A meeting of the Berlin Parks Commission was held on Tuesday, October 7, 2014 at 5:30 PM. Board members Patricia Dufendach, Sarah Hooper, and Bruce Hyder were present as well as Deputy Town Administrator Mary Bohlen. Councilmember Lisa Hall and Town Administrator Laura Allen were also present. Commission members Mike Wiley and Loretta Briddell were absent.

The Commission reviewed the Minutes of September 2, 2014. Mr. Hyder moved to approve the Minutes as written and approval was unanimous.

Ms. Bohlen indicated that Kate Patton of the Lower Shore Land Trust had been scheduled to provide an update on the Bike/Pedestrian corridor project, but, as she had not yet arrived, that agenda item would be postponed until later in the meeting.

Ms. Bohlen provided an update on the installation of the Stephen Decatur Tot Lot fence, which was completed earlier in the day. Ms. Dufendach provided pictures of the rain gardens and Stephen Decatur Park and discussion of the rain gardens and protecting the trees along the parking lot from being struck by the mowers followed. Ms. Bohlen indicated that she would follow up with Public Works Director Jane Kreiter.

Ms. Bohlen indicated that the pre-bid meeting for the Henry Park Bleacher project would be held on Friday, October 10, 2014 and the bid opening would be Friday, October 24, 2014. Ms. Bohlen anticipated that, once awarded, the successful bidder should be able to complete the installation by the end of the calendar year, weather permitting. She also anticipated that, once the bleachers and benches were installed, use of the courts and the park in general would increase for organized events.

Ms. Bohlen reminded the Commission that the Just Walk Berlin event would be held on Saturday, November 8, 2014 from 9-10 AM and that it would be appreciated if the Commission members arrived at 8:30 AM to tidy up the paths. Following the Just Walk event, the mural ribbon-cutting would be held at 11:00 AM. Ms. Bolen brought the Commission members attention to a letter included in their packet that was being sent to local government representatives at the request of the Worcester County Arts Council acknowledging their grant toward the mural project. She also noted the invitation that would be sent to the participating students and the art teachers at Stephen Decatur High School.

Ms. Bohlen provided an update on the Bike/Pedestrian corridor. The MDoT Bikeways project that the Town had submitted on behalf of LSLT had been approved in the amount of \$30,000 and notification had been received earlier in the date that the FLAP (Federal Land Access Program) grant submitted by Worcester County on behalf of LSLT had been approved *

Melanie Windsor of Worcester Youth and Family Project joined the meeting in progress. Ms. Windsor described recent and upcoming projects being done by the Youth Program children. She indicated that she would be approaching the Parks Commission regarding a “rock” garden, a project in which the children would paint small rocks to create a mosaic-type design. She also indicated that WYFC would be hosting a Halloween event/activity on Halloween in which the children could trade their hard candy for an item to be determined. The hard candy would then be sent to troops overseas through a program sponsored by the Worcester County Health Department.

Kate Patton had joined the meeting in progress during Ms. Windsor’s presentation. Ms. Patton clarified that the MDoT monies had been awarded, along with an Assateague Gateway Trail Project

technical assistance grant – not the FLAP program funds as Ms. Bohlen had indicated earlier. She also spoke briefly regarding an initial discussion she had had with railroad representatives regarding utilization of the railroad right-of-way/easement for trail connections.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mary T. Bohlen".

Mary T. Bohlen
Deputy Town Administrator
Liaison to the Parks Commission