

PARKS COMMISSION AGENDA

**December 2, 2014, 5:30 PM
Berlin Town Hall Conference Room**

1. Approval of Minutes of November 4, 2014
2. Old Business
 - a) Henry Park
 - i) Bleachers
3. New Business
 - a) Tour of recreational facilities
4. Berlin Youth Program Update
5. Other

MINUTES – PARKS COMMISSION
November 4, 2014

A meeting of the Berlin Parks Commission was held on Tuesday, November 4, 2014 at 5:30 PM. Board members Patricia Dufendach, Sarah Hooper, Bruce Hyder and Mike Wiley were present as well as Deputy Town Administrator Mary Bohlen. Town Administrator Laura Allen was also present. Commission member Loretta Briddell was absent.

The Commission reviewed the Minutes of October 7, 2014. Ms. Dufendach moved to approve the Minutes as written and approval was unanimous.

Ms. Bohlen informed the Commission that the bid opening for the Henry Park Bleachers had been on Friday, October 31, 2014 and that she intended to present the recommended bidder to the Mayor and Council on Monday, November 10, 2014.

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. Mr. Wiley indicated that he would have cones and signs for the parking areas. Following the Just Walk event, the mural ribbon-cutting would be held at 11:00 AM. There would be light refreshments for the ribbon-cutting.

Mr. Ben Smith appeared before the Parks Commission to discuss the issue of a skate park for Berlin. Through the course of the discussion it was noted that Berlin did not currently have an appropriate location for a park. Mr. Smith indicated that, while a large park was an ultimate goal, a temporary, small facility could be developed fairly quickly. Lengthy discussion followed including the need to find a suitable location, perform preliminary engineering and other site assessment and to secure funding. It was noted that the most suitable location at this time might be the Worcester County Athletic Fields. Mr. Smith indicated that the interested parties may approach the County.

Ms. Beth Gourley asked about the possibility of biking trails. Discussion continued with the note that, again, location was the primary obstacle.

Ms. Bohlen reviewed an email sent by Mayor Williams regarding several areas of Stephen Decatur Park. It was indicated that the Commission members could take a closer look at some of the areas on Saturday.

Mr. Wiley made a motion to adjourn and the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



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