

**RECREATION MASTER PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2023, 7:00 AM  
VIA ZOOM REMOTE MEETING PLATFORM**

*Pursuant to Gov. Baker signing into law An Act Relative to Extending Certain State of Emergency Accommodations, extending the expiration of the provisions pertaining to the Open Meeting Law to March 31, 2023, the Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee held its meeting remotely via Zoom. A link was provided for participation by members of the public in real time.*

**Members present:** Melissa Crocker, Trevor MacDonald, Charlie Hipwood, Mark Ferris, Shirley Small-Rougeau, Kelly LaRocque, Maija Cirulis-Gooch, Alex Cobb, Ben Polimer, Chris Fitzgerald.

**Absent:** Kate Carlson, Mike McGrath, Pete Foley.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 AM.

**Pickleball and tennis update and discussion**

Ms. Crocker detailed a meeting that took place with her, Mr. Fitzgerald, and the chair of the Community Preservation Committee on January 24, when the CPC chair asked whether the RMPSC would consider splitting our request into two separate requests – one for pickleball and one for tennis/basketball, and that we would likely be asked to do that at the February 6 CPC meeting.

Since that meeting, Mr. Fitzgerald learned that it would be possible but involve bidding the same project twice, one with pickleball as the lead project and the other with tennis / basketball as the lead project. It's likely that this could be done with minimal – if any – cost increase to the current design contract. However, the RMPSC should consider strategy as the reason for combining would be disregarded if the Town were to approve one project and not the other.

The RMPSC discussed the benefits and risks of splitting the request or keeping it as is, ultimately deciding that it may be more politically advantageous to do what's requested of us.

**VOTE**

**Motion: To be prepared to separate the current CPC requests into two-separate requests, one for pickleball and one for tennis/basketball, if asked to do so by the CPC.**

*Moved: Mr. Cobb; second: Ms. Crocker.*

Roll call vote – all in favor.

**Motion carries unanimously.**

Discussion continued about clarifying the cost of doing projects separate vs. together, also whether both projects were being prepped for conduit among other things.

Next the RMPSC reviewed the meeting with Conservation Commission that took place on Tuesday, January 31. Here the designer presented the plans, what's in place to comply with a required Notice of Intent, and potential mitigation efforts to help account for the amount of tree removal needed for the pickleball courts. Questions also arose about lighting and other strategies that would be in place for parking, operating hours, etc.

**Future meetings:**

CPC – Monday, March 13, 7 PM

RMPSC regular meeting – Friday, February 17, 7AM

*The meeting adjourned at 7:57 AM.*