

City of Concord, NH Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes from October 16, 2025 5:30pm

Committee Members: Althea Barton (Ward 1), Robert Kleiner (Ward 2), Mary Miller, Chair (Ward 10), Kenny Edwards (Merrimack Valley School District), City Councilor Nate Fennessy, City Councilor Michele Horne, Brian Sartorelli (Ward 7), and Zoey Murphy (Ward 5)

Absent: Nick Kotkowski (Ward 6), Jim Figueira (Ward 3), Deodonne Bhattarai (Ward 9), Sarah Beauregard (Ward 4), Barb Higgins (Concord School District)

Staff Members: David Gill Parks & Recreation Director, Laura Bryant Assistant Parks & Recreation Director and Matt Walsh Deputy City Manager

Guests: Susan Wood

Meeting was called to order at 5:31pm by Chair Mary Miller, minutes from September 2025 approved, with addition of guests surnames as requested by Althea.

New Business:

Council referral to install AED at Beaver Meadow Park Pickleball/Tennis Courts: David reviewed the discussion from last months meeting when Councilor Foote came to speak about adding an AED to the Pickleball court at Beaver Meadow. After that meeting RPAC had requested staff get additional information from the fire department. David shared that after speaking to the fire department while they are in favor of having AED's out in the community the cost can be prohibitive as you would need electrical access to have them properly installed and maintained in all types of weather, running anywhere from 3-5K per unit. RPAC had a robust conversation about the pros and cons to installing units at all parks. The idea of a pilot programs came up as well as training folks in CPR. Rob made a motion for staff to look into offering free CPR/AED classes to Pickleball players funded by the city rather than installing AED's in the park, seconded by Mary and approved.

Ski the Beav new request: David reviewed the plan to develop XC skiing at BMGC. Susan Woods came to speak with RPAC about their new request for the City of Concord to purchase the snow gun for snow making as the city would be eligible to receive a refund through Eversource, which would reduce the overall cost of the snow gun by 25K. The remaining balance of the snow gun would then be paid for through funds the group has raised which would elevate the city from actually spending any money on the snow gun itself. Brian asked about the timeline for paying the city back. David indicated that he would foresee the money being recuperated by December. The city would be fully responsible for the operation and maintenance of the snow gun after purchase, we have staff attending a training this winter. The snow gun will be kept at BMGC in season and at Merrill Park shed in the off season. Althea made a motion to approve the request for the city to purchase the snow gun in order to receive the rebate, seconded by Rob and approved.

Capital Improvement Plan FY27: David shared that the timeline for CIP's has moved so we will now review CIP projects in November rather than January and February. He gave a brief overview as to how to read the CIP report and encouraged members to bring suggestions to next months meeting. Staff will also be bringing recommendations to next months meeting.

Bike Park Update: David gave an update about the Bike Park, unfortunately several abutters did not receive the last meeting notice in a timely manor so there will be one more community meeting held to discuss concerns. The meeting will be held in early November day and time to be announced soon.

David share the following upcoming events:

- White Park Playground opening will be Friday October 17th at 5pm.
- Eastman Clocktower dedication thanks to Chris and Mary Miller will be held Monday October 27th at 5pm.

CIP Funded Projects:

The vault project at Blossom Hill cemetery has been completed along with the White Tomb Wall. The White Park Pond project is fully permitted and just waiting for cost estimates from Milestone prior to going back to City Council will final report and recommendation.

Mary asked about getting an updated Master Plan, as well as an information notebook for member new to RPAC. David said yes he could work on an updated informational notebook as they had in the past. Matt Walsh shared that current master plans good through 2030 are available on the website www.concordnh.gov. The last Master Plan was done in 2008. The city is currently in the process of updating the master plans and has funds appropriated for the RFP process. The hope is to have a vendor in place by January, it will be a large undertaking and Matt anticipates it taking the better part of 2 years.

Motion was made by Rob to end the meeting at 6:21pm, seconded by Althea and approved.

Next RPAC meeting scheduled for Thursday November 20, 2025 at 5:30pm.

Submitted by Laura S. Bryant, Assistant Parks & Recreation Director