

Town of

C H A R L E M O N T
M A S S A C H U S E T T S



INCORPORATED 1765

01339

OFFICE OF THE
Park and Recreation Commission

Minutes
Meeting September 20, 2007
6 p.m.
Charlemont Inn

Present: Commissioners; Tom Campbell, Bob Engstrom, Cathy Buntin and guests Norma and Bill Coli.

- I. Meeting called to order 6:35 p.m.
- II. Bill and Norma Coli, representing the Town Finance Committee and Historical Commission respectively, presented 3 issues. 1) They requested space to store the side boards from the Bissell Bridge which will be removed and replaced during the Bridges reconstruction. They stated the boards are in excellent condition and can be preserved for future (unspecified at this time) use or sale. Northern Construction, in charge of the work, has agreed to store the boards on Town property at no additional cost. The Coli's asked about the bottom floor of the Exhibition Hall. Tom Campbell offered to speak to Northern and look at the space in the far left corner, to see if the space would be adequate.
2) The Coli's reported what they considered a safety issue during the Gymkana of Yankee Doodle Days. Since the horse draw and gymkana occur concurrently, horses have been tied to the same railing facing each other. This "spooks" the gymkana horses and this year a rider fell when their horse got spooked. The Coli's discussed possible options for improving the safety such as adding a railing or moving some of the horses to another location. These suggestions will be considered by the Commission and discussed with the Yankee Doodle Days Committee.
3) The Coli's also suggested the Commission look into possibly nominating the Grandstands for National Historic Monument status. They described the current stipulations as being minimal and offering flexibility for renovation. The Commission will look into the request. The Coli's offered their assistance.
- III. The application by the Hawlemont PTO for use of the Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall was reviewed and permission granted for the October 26th, 2007 event. Rental fees were waived as well as application fees pending submission of appropriate insurance coverage.
- IV. Time constraints and loss of a quorum ended the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Other Agenda items were tabled for a future meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathleen Buntin, Secretary