

Carver Select Board
Meeting Minutes
Carver Town Hall, 2nd Floor
September 17, 2019 - 7:00pm

In Attendance: Chairman Ronald Clarke, Vice-Chairman Mark Townsend, Robert Belbin, Alan Dunham, Town Administrator Michael Milanoski & Elaine Weston

Absent: Sarah Hewins

Chair led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and Dunham read the community prayer.

Clarke apologized to the families for the public not knowing about the playground dismantling. He thought it was supposed to happen sooner and didn't realize how it impacted the community to not have an opportunity to visit one last time.

Citizens Participation:

Jen Bogart: in regards to the playground – read a statement to be put on file.

Eagle Scout Service Project: Frederick Doll presented the plan for his Eagle Scout project. He would like to fix the gardens on both sides of Savory Avenue, cut back overgrowth, re-mulch and transplant more bushes. He may also like to update the signs on the rock and a bench. The project is anticipated to begin in the spring.

Carver, Marion, Wareham Regional Refuse Disposal District (CMWRRDD) update:

Jeff Osuch, the Executive Director of the District gave an update on existing operations of both facilities and steps taken to reduce illegal dumping. Covanta's agreement is set to expire on 12/31/2020 thereafter no subsidies. He gave an update on what potential options will be.

The majority of vehicles that come into Benson Brook facility in Marion have a high volume of Wareham residents going to it. This splits the amount of people using the Rt. 28 facility in half in terms of which facility the Wareham residents are using.

The cost of trash disposal needs to be addressed in these facilities as Covanta/Seamass has been subsidizing the cost for the last 30 years and that will end in 2020.

The cost of a transfer station sticker for 2020 will be \$125. This cost is based on covering operational costs of the district assuming 4,600 stickers are sold. It will be a challenge to forecast interest of residents in 2021 as the cost will be more than double the 2020 sticker prices.

If one facility was run 5 days a week it would cost about \$1.3 million. The ongoing discussions between district members has resulted in this cost increase in order to keep up with the costs to keep the district open. Trying to run 2 facilities will not be feasible 5 days a week. One of

the facilities will need to expand in order to accommodate the amount of traffic of 2 facilities. An addition to the Rt. 28 facility would cost approximately \$700,000.

The projection for sticker sales is dependent on those residents who don't choose to obtain a private hauler in the future.

A bag system is being explored and there would be a limit of designated bags.

Many questions remain as to if the district will remain in existence, if one or two facilities continue to operate and to move to a bag system. These decisions all need to be made in the next 6 months. It is possible that Marion may not want to participate.

The district Board members are meeting tomorrow and need to start making decisions on these items.

There is a larger amount of tonnage being brought to Rt. 28 facility and that is due to the commercial waste being brought in.

Dunham questioned how quickly the price can be adjusted if the amount of stickers being sold is significantly less than anticipated. Osuch stated that the cost will need to be adjusted if that is the case.

The cost per ton to dispose of the waste may increase to approximately \$100/ton.

Hazardous Waste Day is scheduled in Carver on November 16, 2019 at the DPW Garage located at 51R Pond St. from 9am-noon. There will also be one at Benson Brook in Marion. The cost of the last one held was approximately \$40,000. Propane tanks and florescent lights be brought to the transfer station and can be disposed of there. There is no need to wait until Hazardous Waste Day to dispose of those. It is asked that products be brought in a cardboard box, not a container of your own that needs to be emptied. You must have proof of residency or a transfer station sticker in order to participate in the drop off program.

Select Board Update:

Belbin: Annual Town meeting petition articles can be submitted at any time. Tennis court removal, Center St. issue, nuisance by-law, language on walking trails, improve communications with public, council on aging code of conduct, Town Clerk's office staff, property auction going on.

Dunham: Carver Fire Department is hiring-Station 1 has applications and are due by Oct. 1

Townsend: Carver Cares is holding a vigil tomorrow. Office hours 6-7pm on Sept. 24

Clarke: Comcast negotiations happening. The public hearing is this Thursday at 7pm. MMA has 2 upcoming legislative meetings for any Board members interested. Meeting on Sat. 9/21 on housing choices and opportunities in MA. Deconstruction of the playground prompted

people to go to social media and cannot understand how people will run for public office if people aren't being treated with dignity.

Request to establish qualifications for elected office via special act to submit CORI/SORI:

Belbin would like anyone running for an elected position to have to apply for a CORI/SORI. This would need to go to legislation for approval.

TA stated that this will require a lot of legal analysis before anything could be done.

Dunham questioned how far this would reach and how this would affect those running for an elected position.

Clarke stated it would depend on the level of dissemination.

TA to seek opinion of Town Counsel of how the information would/could be disseminated.

Town Hall meeting discussion: The question is how would the Open Meeting Law govern this. The idea would be that there is no agenda and people would be able ask questions and the Board could give answers. It could also be an extended version of citizens' participation where board would listen to issues and not respond.

Town Administrator Update: Public Real Estate Auction information is available on the website. The new playground is moving forward & all but one of the catch basins have been installed. One of the fields was built over a field. That was dug and replaced with sand. Most of the materials will be replaced later this month. All of the parts from the old playground are in storage to be used in the new playground. All of the parts that cannot be reused are in the parking lot behind the library. TA stated to the Board that the Recreation Committee will be repurposing the materials to the public. Will proceed with this since there was no objection from The Board. Thanked volunteers that worked on the playground demolition project which saved the town thousands of dollars. The site was leveled and stripped. The trees and grubbing of the site will take place next week and then the mulch will be removed and soil may be replaced. This work will be done by the town to save money before the project is put out to bid. Weather conditions that would prevent the town from putting down the rubberized coating is cold temperatures. The savings come into play for the betterment of the community. It is hopeful that the entire playground will be able to have the rubberized coating as opposed to the combo rubber/mulch mix.

There will be an opening ceremony for the playground in conjunction with the Recreation Committee. There will be a groundbreaking for the Police Station in late fall tentatively. The Police Station design has been approved and the bid will go out in October. The Planning Board will be voting at their next meeting for approval.

Carver quality of life project is still moving forward with contractor Dan Badger. These are areas of town that need focus on providing better services.

Minutes/Licenses/Topics unforeseen 48 hours in advance of meeting:

Unforeseen 48 hours in advance of meeting: Request for One Day Special License: St. John the Baptist Club October 12, 2019 1pm-6pm. Motion to approve by Dunham, second by Townsend.
Vote 4-0

Appoint James Walsh as replacement 2019-2020 SRPEDD member: Motion to approve by Dunham, second by Belbin.

Vote 4-0

Update & Vote on Executive Session Minutes Review of Town Counsel:

1/16/18: not for release- Continuous topic of Executive Session

4/3/18: To be released and put on file at the Town Clerk's office

5/15/18: not for release – personnel matter

6/26/18: 6:30pm - not for release- issue of school security continues to exist

6/26/18: not for release – Appeal is still pending in Superior Court

Motion to approve all minutes by Townsend and release only April 3, second by Belbin.

Vote 3-0

Minutes of 8/6/19: Motion to approve minutes with amendment by Dunham, second by Belbin.

Vote 4-0.

Minutes of 9/3/19: Tabled to next meeting

Next Meetings: 9/26/19 (joint meeting with school), 10/1/19, 10/15/19, 11/5/19, 11/19/19, 12/3/19, 12/17/19

Motion to adjourn at 8:45pm by Townsend, second by Belbin.

Vote 4-0

I'm Jen Bogart, 116 Cranberry Road, member of the Carver Planning Board but speaking as myself tonight...

My then 5 year old daughter came with me to the meeting about the playground that was held in the basement here many months ago. She was the only child in attendance, and in a contentious room filled wall to wall with adults, she had the courage and conviction to raise her hand and speak her mind on the idea of a new playground.

My daughter and I also attended almost every meeting the Recreation Committee had involving the new playground. ~~Again, my daughter was the only child there, and~~ on our way to one meeting she said to me, "I'm probably going to be the only kid there Mom. Even if there are no kids there, the committee and the people should do the right thing for us kids. At least I get to be there for the kids that don't get to go to the meeting tonight." ~~Let me remind you,~~ these common sense ethics CAME FROM A 5 YEAR OLD!

When I ~~(along with the rest of the world, except for a select few individuals),~~ found out the playground was being torn down yesterday, I immediately started to think of how I would tell my daughter. The child who represented so many more at all those meetings. The child who counted on having one last time to play at the playground before it was torn down. The child who was at a meeting when someone said the playground wouldn't be torn down until at least the beginning of October.

My child and I are not alone in our disappointment and distrust regarding this matter.

Some of the comments made on social media yesterday that I think you should hear include the following:

~~the kids are going to be so upset~~

was suppose to take my son after school, he is autistic and is going to have a complete meltdown 😞. Thanks for the warning.

There should have been more notice because kids need the time to process

Thankfully I brought my little guy yesterday....I had no idea they were taking it down

My son just cried coming home from preschool

Wait till the buses roll by and they see it.

[my son] is well aware and constantly wants to know when the playground is closing. I've been telling him exactly what we were told! **The town made me a liar to my kid because they can't be honest with the people they work for!**

In my opinion, the most eloquent comment was:

What a slap in the face. It feels like punishment and a "ha ha, I win" attitude. Clearly there is no care or concern for any of the children of this town, never mind being honest with any of the people that live here. The kids ALL deserved a chance to attend one last time and their parents the opportunity to explain to their kids it was actually their last time there. Everyone knew what the playground meant to our kids! To take it away like this, without any notice, is shameful, and honestly disgusting

Lastly, the comment that in my opinion says it all pretty succinctly...

This really sucks.... but honestly, it's like the least surprising news ever.

So to every child who was bullied yesterday by the decision to take away your playground without notice, I just want you to know, not every grown up is like that.

Thank you.