



# TOWN OF BARNSTABLE

## BARNSTABLE RECREATION DIVISION

DIVISION MANAGER

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### RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

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**There was not a quorum for the regularly scheduled meeting but the following notes were taken:**

Jeff Avery gave a presentation for a proposed campground at Hathaway's Pond in Hyannis. Also, Rene King, Commission member said that the Recreation Commission was looking for viable partnerships with Recreation and education regarding the proposed campground. Jeff Avery said some of the main goals were to fill a tourism gap with affordable family vacations, create opportunities for educational and recreational excellence, add value to the community, and provide a new revenue stream. He showed aerial maps of the area and surrounding areas and showed a potential for another beach. He discussed phase 1 of the plan. He said that they would clear paths and fallen, dead trees for tent camping, have fire pits; upgrade the bathhouse to an environmental friendly facility (no effluent), new parking lot. Jeff went on to discuss the other two phases. But he also said that if phase 1 did not work, then they would not seek to continue with the other two phases and if anything Hathaway's Pond would have a new bathhouse facility and a clean area for patrons. Phase 2 and 3 included more tenting areas and paths to include a total of 136 tenting sites at the area. Jeff said that Barnstable could fill the 136 tent sites with the overflow from Nickerson State Park alone. He said the campground would create more opportunities for the Town of Barnstable and with the 136 tent sites could create a projected \$400,000 in revenue a year during the shoulder and prime season of camping. Bourne's revenue from the campground pays for the Recreation department 100%. Jeff believes that the campground would fiscally maintain itself.

Concerning the educational aspects, there are so many studies and tests that could be done using the area around Hathaway's Pond such as: Water quality testing, Lincoln Indexing, Species Inventory, Sediment Testing, Kettle Pond Ecology, Pit Trapping, Succession, Seasonal Variations, Ethology, Ornithology. He believes that Cape Cod is a unique geological place impacted greatly by man's presence. Also, additional "hands on" science curriculum options would add value to the Town of Barnstable. A number of permanent studies could be setup to study effects over time by contiguous classes, educational partnerships with Nickerson and other campgrounds with educational programs, and there could be environment and other grants available for these opportunities.

Jeff thinks that a campground would enhance the recreational area of Hathaway's Pond. It would be available year round for walking and cross-country skiing. They would have a zero tolerance for alcohol. A 24/7 on site manager, an additional sandy beach, year round upgrade / maintenance of trails, upgraded playground, upgraded parking lot, and an updated zero-effluent bathhouse. There were some concerns regarding the traffic flow from rte 6 and for Barnstable Village and would the beach still be available 9-5? Ann Canedy, Town Councilor for Barnstable Village, had some concerns regarding the environment, traffic, Conservation Committee, fire/water districts, and if a campground would raise taxes for the district. Jeff said he would like to address these concerns in front of the Barnstable Civic Association, but he believes that a campground would only benefit the area, not disrupt it or lessen the value of surrounding areas.