

**Tewksbury Township Parks Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 13, 2013**

Meeting Called to Order at 7:45PM

Attending:

Don Broughton (Chairman, DB)
Charlie Garrett (Chairman, CG)
Ed D'Armiento (ED)
Patrice Marturana (PM)
Lisa Stryker (LS)

Absent:

Doug Schneider (DS)
Greg Davidson(GD)

Minutes

Minutes from January read. Charlie made a motion to approve and Don seconded. Minutes approved.

Committee Discussion

Raptor Nesting Boxes

Don welcomed our guest, Joe Kosakowski. He is a long-time Tewksbury resident with years of service. He is a licensed falconer and he and his son, owner of a wildlife specialist business, would like to donate raptor nesting boxes to be placed in the parks. The nests would be placed on poles 15' to 20' high mounted in 3' concrete. He is proposing:

- 1 barn owl nesting box (Few barn owls are currently residing in Tewksbury, yet we have good conditions for them.)
- 5 screech owl nesting boxes
- 5 kestrel nesting boxes (a threatened species; the state has put nesting boxes up around the state)

While he thinks raptors will take up residence in the nests, Mr. Kosakowski has an affiliation with a raptor trust and could place a barn owl in the nesting box if needed. The pavilion could be a perfect location for the barn owl nesting box.

Mr. Kosakowski presented the Chairman with a proposal that contained photos of the nests. The donation of the boxes is valued at approximately \$1,000 plus labor. The Kosakowskis would like to place a placard in the kiosk.

It is important to do this sooner rather than later since nesting season is upon us.

Exclosure

The exclosure at Pascale Park was destroyed during Hurricane Sandy. Hayden Hull is taking it down. We discussed rebuilding it. Perhaps rebuilding it at Whittemore would be an option. There is no one to currently spearhead the project, so the committee is tabling it for now.

Murphy Garden

Charlie is checking on this for next month.

Public Participation

No Public participation

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM

Submitted by CG