

MASCOMA LAKESIDE PARK – MOVING FORWARD WITH FUNDRAISING FOR PLANNED IMPROVEMENTS

As has been previously reported, the Mascoma Lakeside Park Committee has succeeded in raising the funds required to purchase the Mascoma Lake property and begin converting to a community park. Now that title research has been completed and a land survey is almost complete, we are officially in the final stages of acquiring the waterfront property that will become Mascoma Lakeside Park.

Now that we are confident that the land will be secured, we are turning our attention to amenities for the park. This past fall we have actively solicited public input through a series of meetings with local organizations, town committees, and a well-attended public forum held at the Community Building. The top priority for all stakeholders is that the natural beauty of the site be preserved and not over-developed. Some improvements are also needed and desired. They include

removing and replacing brush and trash trees with native shrubs and trees; creating trails and educational signage to enhance recreational use of the property; constructing rainwater gardens and a new retaining wall to protect the water quality of the lake; installing a children's wading/swimming area; improved parking; installing grill boxes, and; building a shelter or pavilion (which may include a fire pit) that can serve as a gathering place and an educational facility.



The Town of Enfield was recently awarded a Northern Borders Regional Commission grant in the amount of roughly \$135,000 to help fund improvements to the park property. This federal grant is a “match” grant, and the total project budget is approximately \$270,000. We have until July, 2019 to raise \$135,000 in matching funds, at which point we will receive whatever portion of the \$135,000 we have matched. The Lakeside Park Committee is thrilled to announce that the Byrne Foundation recently made an additional gift in the amount of \$50,000 for improvements to the park. This combined with other available donations brings our fundraising tally to approximately \$85,000 for funding planned improvements. So, we are well on our way to

achieving our \$135,000 goal, but we still have to raise approximately \$60,000 to reach our current fundraising goal. Your generous support is needed!

An online version of the pledge agreement can be accessed here:

<http://www.enfield.nh.us/sites/enfieldnh/files/uploads/mlppledgeagreement.pdf>

You may enclose a check with your completed pledge agreement, but if you'd rather pay later you may do that. Send in your donation when it's convenient, with the words "Mascoma Lakeside Park" clearly noted in the memo field. Or, you can choose to wait and a member of the Mascoma Lakeside Park Committee will contact you for payment on the date or dates you specify in your pledge. Thank you for your support! This is an incredibly important effort for our community.

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

Please don't hesitate to contact the Town Manager at 603-632-5026 or raylesworth@enfield.nh.us if you have related questions or interest in lending your support to this important community project.