

DPW Building Committee's Response

The following are my responses on behalf of the DPW Building Committee, to the 6 questions from the Town Government Study Committee:

1. The DPW Building Committee's charge resulted from a vote of the Town Meeting. Our charge was to develop new DPW Buildings and facilities and to develop athletic fields, including a skateboard park, on certain Town owned land on the road from Fort Hill Street to Bare Cove Park.
2. Accountability was to Town Meeting and the citizens of Hingham. We were indirectly accountable to the Selectmen and to the end users of the facilities we developed, namely DPW and the Selectmen/Recreation Commission, which was eventually appointed to operate the Fields.
3. The Building Committee succeeded because of:
 - the exceptional efforts by Roger Fernandes to creatively assist, support, administer and oversee the development of the projects the Building Committee undertook.
 - the efforts of Charley Cristello to support the Building Committee's efforts to develop the Project through the minefields we had to traverse during the permitting process .
 - the dedicated and patient individuals who are on the Building Committee.
4. The most serious problems were encountered during the permitting of the Project. Questionable decisions by a permitting agency led to a substantial redesign effort and incorrectly created an issue that resulted in a lengthy delay to the Project. While we recognize the legal responsibilities of the permitting agencies to independently carry out their functions on every project that goes before them, it would seem that there should be a better and more

coordinated way for the Town to undertake the permitting of a large town project, particularly a project that attracted strong opposition from a handful of abutters.

5. Once we complete the skate park which is currently under construction, the last piece of the Project will be completed and the Committee's 7 year mission will be over, so we aren't looking to the future.

6. No.

Bob Garrity, Chairman