

October 9, 2012

Present: Chairman C.J. Kersten, Commissioners Sheila Anson, Ray Reich, Tim Cook, Joe Fredlund, Laura Eanes, Whitney Ryan; Coordinator Lisa Easter; Clerk Mary Anne Greene.

Call to Order:

Chairman C.J. Kersten called the meeting to order at 5:20p.m. noting there was a quorum present.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion:

To approve the minutes of the September 10, 2012 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

By Ray Reich, seconded by Joe Fredlund and unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

* Beach & Boat Launch:

Ray Reich reported that the Beach caretakers would be trimming the hedge. Bob Papsin has completed the first fertilization of the grass area. There was discussion of placement of the flagpole. It was unanimously agreed that in order to expedite the process without having to go to land use for permits, concern about set-backs, size and cost of pole, etc, that a flag will be hung from the deck of the beach house. It will be seen from the road as the beach is approached from East Shore Road and will be seen from the water as well. Ray Reich offered to get the holder and flag.

River Walk Park:

Ed Ramsauer has been awarded the bid to power wash and stain the Pavilion. Sheila Anson and Joe Fredlund met with Abbey Taylor of Everything Botanical who will do some trimming of trees, etc. along the walk. She also suggested plantings for the Pavilion area and will do the fall/winter clean up. Abbey was asked to give an estimate for maintaining the planting areas, etc. She recommended Bill Polluck to fertilize the trees.

Motion:

To approve an expenditure of up to \$500 for Bill Polluck-Arbor Services for the fertilization of trees at River Walk Park.

By Tim Cook, seconded by Whitney Ryan and unanimously approved.

*C.J. Kersten has spoken with Kevin Smith re: repairing of the cement floor at the Pavilion – Clover Construction no longer does this type of work. C.J. will contact Tom Knecht. Tim Cook has received IW approval for the removal of trees to expand the Joe Martin Field. Tim will get the plans to the Board of Selectmen and Buildings and Property Commission. Gary Fitzherbert has volunteered to assist with fundraising, applying for grants, etc. for this project. The Commissioners agreed to ask Wes Gladding-River Walk Park groundskeeper, to paint the bathroom and kitchen floors. There was discussion as to what type of paint would be best suited for these surfaces. Tim will speak with Washington Supply and Wes.

Motion:

To approve an expenditure of up to \$1000 for the painting of the bathroom and kitchen floors at the Pavilion.

By Joe Fredlund, seconded by Laura Martin and unanimously approved.

Lisa Easter reported that a person needing to fulfill community service hours has removed all the staples from the Pavilion walls. It was also decided to place a light on the outside of the Pavilion by the gas grill.

Motion:

To hire eagle Electric to install a light by the grill at the Pavilion.

By Laura Martin, seconded by Tim Cook and unanimously approved.

Lisa Easter will contact Eagle. Joe Fredlund and C.J. Kersten met with Dave Swanson re: infield cleanup on the Ted Alex, Joe Martin and Dick Ayer fields. Will start this weekend. The Commissioners agreed to re-visit the hiring of someone to maintain the fields. The dugout at the Dick Ayer field is in need of painting – Wes Gladding will be asked to do this. There is a pipe coming out of the wall of the visitors dugout on the Ted Alex Field – what is it for? The roof on this dugout is also in need of repair – Tim Cook offered to fix it for the winter. A more thorough repair will be done next spring.

* Potluck Picnic:

The first annual potluck picnic to honor the Town's emergency service volunteers was a huge success – great turnout, great food! It was decided to hold again next year and then every other year. The Commissioners thanked Steep Rock for the hamburgers and hotdogs donated after its picnic. Thank you to Linda McGarr for her "expert" advice on planning, set up and serving! Thank you to Jenna Downs who volunteered her time and talent to entertain those present with her beautiful voice!

Motion:

To purchase a \$250 gift card for Jenna Downs from the Concert account.

By Sheila Anson, seconded by Tim Cook and unanimously approved.

Thank you notes from Fire Chief Mark Showalter and Linda McGarr have been received and read at this evening's meeting and are attached to these minutes filed with the Town Clerk.

* Field Use Schedule:

There was discussion as to the importance of the Coordinator knowing the schedule of games being played at the fields. This would also be helpful to the Selectmen's office that is in charge of renting out the Pavilion. Tim Cook and Darren Dutcher will get the schedules to Lisa Easter. It could then be placed on the message board at the Pavilion, added to the website for Parks and Rec etc. Laura Martin and Whitney Ryan offered to assist Lisa in the best way to set this up and keep it up to date with different computer programs.

COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

Lisa Easter reported on the following:

* Afternoon Camps:

numbers of attendees were reported with a summary from Lisa indicating the first year of afternoon camps went very well. Lisa expects an increase in enrollment for both the Summer Rec Camp and the afternoon camps from the positive feedback received. Late registrations were a significant

problem for Lisa and camp directors. After discussion it was decided that those who come on the first day of a camp expecting to sign their child up would be told they need to wait a day for processing and a late fee will be charged. In addition to working on the website with field use schedules as mentioned above, there was discussion of having on-line registrations available. This will also be looked into further.

* Camp Reports:

are attached to these minutes filed with the Town Clerk. Reports received are from Summer Rec, Arts & Crafts, Berkshire Field Hockey, and Spartan Hoop School.

* Qigong:

is no longer being held due to poor enrollment.

* Yoga with Doug Greene:

is no longer being held at the Town Hall due to conflicts with using the upstairs meeting room.

* Thank you from the Gunn Library:

for the gift certificate to Lore's Lanes, which was used as an incentive prize in the Summer Reading Program.

* Fall Swim Lessons:

40 children are signed up for the Tuesday lessons and 44 for Friday lessons. Family Swim will be offered on Friday evenings.

* Holiday in the Depot:

Glo necklaces have been ordered for Halloween and Holiday in the Depot. There was a brief discussion as to where Santa, etc. would be for Holiday in the Depot if the Town Hall were not yet ready following the damage caused by the propane explosion – Washington Primary School, Legion Hall?? This will need to be discussed further.

* New Parks and Rec office hours:

Lisa has changed her hours in the Parks and Rec office to 1:30-5:30p.m. Monday through Thursday. As there has no activity – phone or walk-in – between 5:00 and 5:30, Lisa requested she change the hours to 1:00-5:00p.m. The Commissioners agreed this would be reviewed again in the Spring.

NEW BUSINESS:

* Co-sponsored one-day Ski Trip:

Bridgewater's Parks and Rec Commission has discussed running a one-day ski trip to Okemo or Killington in Vermont. They are asking the Commissions in Roxbury and Washington to co-sponsor. There was discussion as to what age group(s) this would be targeted for.

Motion:

To approve Bridgewater's request of \$100 to co-sponsor a one-day ski trip to Vermont pending confirmation of age requirements and number of chaperones if necessary.

By Joe Fredlund, seconded by Tim Cook and unanimously approved.

* Spraying of fields:

There was discussion about spraying the Ted Alex Field (and possibly the Joe Martin and Dick Ayer fields) for weed control. Regulations regarding the required distance from the school building will be looked into and measurements taken prior to getting estimates from Jim (?).

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

C.J. Kersten reported the following:

* Potluck Picnic:

Thank you to all who made this such a successful event!

* Happy 30th Anniversary to Lisa and David Easter!

* Congratulations to Evan Scribner, Shepaug graduate, who has been the relief pitcher for the Oakland A's - Washington is proud!

* Speedy Recovery to Megan Henry!

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05p.m. as there was no further business for discussion.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Anne Greene
Clerk