

Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes – August 22, 2018 **Approved 10-02-2018**

Meeting began at approx. 6:25pm

Present: Ryan M., Ronalee P., Sean T., Lisa D., Leigh-Anne D.

Absent: Mike A.

New Business

Review/Vote to approve minutes from July 9, 2018

Ryan made a motion to approve the minutes, Ronalee seconded the motion. All in favor, minutes approved as written.

Pickle Ball

Ronalee asked Leigh-Anne if the storage container was purchased for the equipment. Leigh-Anne replied that Angelica was going to speak with Ray Cote about purchasing one. Lisa D. wanted to know who would be responsible for the keys for the container. She suggested that the Senior Center should be holding the equipment and the keys since the seniors will be using the courts the most. Ryan will email Liz Pettis about storing the pickleball net bags. Ronalee will contact the daily news and get in touch with the Pickleball Ambassador. Although, she is not the ambassador for this area, she works with seniors. She asked the Commission members when they want to hold a tournament to promote the court and all agreed to do it now.

Beach Field

Ryan asked if Angelica had sent out quotes yet and if so, when would the bids be going out? Leigh-Anne said she would ask with Angelica and then update the Commission. Sean gave Lisa D. the specs and Angelica will be sending out the quote to Mike Colburn. Sean said the fields need to be done by Thanksgiving at the latest.

Lions Park

Sean mentioned that the playground is in need of more woodchips. Lisa D. will go to the park and evaluate how much woodchips will be needed. Sean suggested that they be placed prior to the end of fall instead of in the spring because the ground will be more firm and able to handle the weight of the delivery truck. He added that the area needs to be measured and then order about nine (9) inches of woodchips to fill the space without going over the lip at the edge of the playground area.

Brewfest

Ronalee said Jennifer with the PTA has done a great job with the Brewfest. She added that there are two (2) bands that have volunteered their time as they are friends of hers. The thought is that the bands have a following and will therefore bring more people to the brewfest to see them perform. Jennifer has also procured the services of a Fat Belly's food truck for the event. Lisa Person heard back on the liability insurance from DJ Conte, of Arthur Page Insurance and they will be donating the insurance as well which is a \$700 savings. Leigh-Anne will email Ronalee a Special Events Permit in the morning. Ryan will present the Special Events Permit and the Liquor License for approval to the Board of Selectmen on September 10th. Ryan has emailed Silvaticus, Newburyport Brewing, and Riverwalk. Newburyport Brewing has emailed back and informed Ryan that his original email has now been forwarded to someone else. Riverwalk emailed Ryan back on August 22nd and Ryan will be responding to them letting them know that their services would be donations.

Fall Festival

The Fall Festival will be held on October 27, 2018 from 12p to 2p. Ryan suggested that we have the Touch-A-Truck with the participation of the Fire Department, Police Department and the DPW. He added that it is a great way to build relationships with the community. Instead of games there could be crafts such as decorating: Halloween bags, pumpkins, masks, and cookies. There will also be face painting. Maryann will be contacted about having the horses again this year as that was a big hit last year. Ryan said that he would reach out to the school for volunteers. Leigh-Anne suggested that the kids could participate in a Cornhole game or trying to catch a donut on a string. Each child would have their own donut so there should be no problem with the Health Department. Sean suggested even having a food truck like the ones that are at the Topsfield Fair with cotton candy, candy apples and maybe even fried dough.

Rototilling Infield Dirt of Softball and Baseball Fields

Sean described the process for the care of the infields. He said that the infield needs to be rototilled at the beginning of the season during the opening of the fields. He said that the Town should be handling the opening and closing of the fields but that the Little League teams should be nail dragging and fine dragging the fields throughout the season. This way the Leagues will not need a

volunteer day. The first year since the fields are in tough shape it will be more expensive, according to Sean however, if they are opened and closed professionally each year then the cost will be cheaper.

Skate Park @ Partridge Brook Park

Ronalee reported that Neil Harrington, Town Manager, sent her a copy of an article regarding a \$300,000 grant awarded to Salem for a skate park. She suggested that the skate park be moved to Partridge Brook Park. Lisa D. said that the skate park could be moved to the metered parking at the parking lot or closer to the beach. The parking lot where the skate park is now floods. Ronalee said that Wilma McDonald, Board of Selectmen, would like the skate park at the beach because it is being used throughout the summer. A smaller skate park could be created at Partridge Brook Park.

Partridge Brook Park Concession Stand

Ronalee met with Scott Vanderwalle, Building Inspector, Jack Morris, Board of Health, and several others to discuss the concession stand. Scott wants an architect to sign off on the electrical wiring, pipes, and plumbing. Jack had explained to Ronalee that the structure could have no grill. Lisa Pearson, Director of the Planning Department needs to send out the plans for sewer and water. Lisa D. said these plans need the electrical, plumbing and gas clearly and accurately marked on them, not just drawn on. It will need to show the primary service, easement for electrical to concession stand, and a grinder pump for fats/oils/grease. An electrician or electrical engineer would be able to supply this information.

Balance in Line Items

Angelica will be contacting Sea-of-Green regarding the closing of the Lions Park Little League Field. It will be the responsibility of the individual teams to drag the infields throughout the season.

Budget

All the fields will be opened up in the spring and closed in the fall by a professional lawn care company which will be the financial responsibility of the Parks and Rec Commission and during the season, the DPW will maintain the fields.

Prioritizing Projects

The big projects for this season should be closing the Lions Park Little League Field, completion of the Partridge Brook Park Concession Stand, the Beach Field, and the purchase and placement of woodchips at the Lions Park playground. At the Fall Town Meeting, a request will be submitted to Neil Harrington for new cameras for Lions Park. This may need to be tabled until spring due to funding concerns.

Town Common Dedication – Veterans Day

Ronalee stated that this dedication needs to be led by the Veterans however, there should be someone from the Parks and Rec Commission involved because Parks and Rec own the Town Common. She suggested that Ryan and Angelica work with them on the dedication. Lisa D. said that as soon as the Town Common is no longer a construction site, the DPW will be putting it on the mowing route.

Other Business – None

Old Business

Cornhole Tournament

Ronalee reported that the Parks & Rec Commission earned \$300 for the tournament. The only issues seemed to be that the beer area needed to be expanded a little to accommodate the participants. Also, the names of the teams should be more in keeping with the family atmosphere of the beach. Ryan agreed. He said that some of the team names being called out were very inappropriate for the beach. Ronalee concluded that all in all it was a great success. The Winner's Circle would like to have two (2) tournaments next year.

Flag Football

Jeff Johnson, Football League, Jason Desrochers, Soccer League, and Chris Walsh, Manager for Facilities and Grounds for the Triton School District, have been coordinating their schedules for the fall season.

Volleyball

Ronalee reported that volleyball is going very well. There are 10 or more people that participate each week.

Other Business – None

Meeting ended at approximately 7:45 p.m.