

Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes – March 13, 2019 [Approved 04-3-2019](#)

Meeting began at approx. 6:32 pm

Present: Ryan M., Ronalee P., Mike C., Lisa D., Leigh-Anne D.

Absent: Sean T.

Guests: Lisa Pearson, Dean Borrelli, Tim Cadieux, Jim Shorey, Jason Desrochers

New Business

Northeast Hurricanes

Ronalee told Dean Borrelli, owner/founder of the Northeast Hurricanes, about Matt Keefe's non-payment for field use last year. Dean asked what he could do to make this right. Ronalee told him to pay half of the invoice for last year and \$720.00 for this year's use, which would come to \$2,140.00. Dean said in the future the executives should be contacted, bypassing Matt Keefe entirely. He will be sending the Commission all the executives email addresses. Dean asked what the rates would be in the future. Ronalee and Ryan informed him that the new rate for the Northeast Hurricanes fall under Tier 3, which is \$20 per hour.

North Shore Performance Training Program

Tim Cadieux told the Commission that he is interested in using one of the fields to host a training program for kids to promote healthy movement patterns and increase strength and agility. North Shore Performance Training also wants to teach the kids about nutrition. The organization's goal is to have athletes and non-athletes in the program, teaching strength and promoting good habits that will carry through for the rest of the children's lives. There will be 2 groups: 8 to 12 years and 13 to 18 years. At their gym in Danvers, the participants currently range from 13 to 18 year olds. Tim would like to have a program outside where the kids can get exercise and train in the fresh air.

Ronalee replied that the beach utility field would be a good spot for the program. Mike added that the spring is a busy time for Lions Park with all the leagues using the field, but in the summer the fields are available. Ronalee said that Lions Park offers a playground where some exercises can be done on the jungle gym as well as running or walking the Ghost Trail. The Memorial Park is also an option.

Triton Youth Lacrosse

Ronalee stated that there is a logistics issue with trying to fit lacrosse and soccer on the fields at the same time. The Parks and Rec want to make sure that both sports get to use the fields and want to come up with a plan to make that happen. Another issue is parking at the school. Jim Shorey said that he and Jason Desrochers have been in contact with each other and are working together to coordinate their schedules.

Jim showed the Commission a diagram that he had brought that illustrated how he will be utilizing the field for lacrosse. He is planning to use blue and orange paint to mark the field and the flag football league will be using white. Ronalee asked Jim where he was planning to store the goals. He described the goals as college sizes that are 6 feet tall with a high bar which can be padlocked and pushed off to the side when not in use. Ronalee said the Commission is looking into a space at Partridge Brook Park where the leagues can store their gear. Then the leagues can purchase or rent pods that can be left at the park year round. Once the road is paved, large trucks will not be able to use the roadway. Jim said that the storage unit needed for the lacrosse league would have to be 8' by 20' by 20'. Ryan produced a map of the playing fields and Ronalee showed Jim and Jason where the

solar park will be and indicated that the Commission would also like to put a parking lot near there for the athletic teams to use.

Jim asked how often the fields will be mowed. Lisa D. replied that it is mowed as often as the DPW can. She explained that she has a staff of 2 that currently mow the town lawns, cemeteries and fields. It takes about 3 weeks to complete the circuit of properties. Weather, funerals, vacations and sick leave throw off the schedule as well. Lisa D. has requested funding for a full time seasonal employee to assist with the mowing. This would add a third person to the mowing crew if the budget is approved. Jim asked if it would be acceptable for the lacrosse league to mow the fields. Lisa D. said that it would not be a labor contract issue since there is nothing in the contract that says a volunteer cannot mow the fields. Ronalee said that once a month Sea-of-Green will be fertilizing the fields. The Commission will use the fees received for field use to fertilize the fields, as well as open and close them.

Triton Youth Soccer

Jason Desrochers informed the Commission that the soccer league is interested in using the fields on Sundays for the spring season. In the fall the league wants to use the fields during the week and on Sundays. The soccer league is interested in creating more opportunities for Salisbury youth in their hometown. Informational flyers will be sent out to each of the students at the Salisbury Elementary School.

Jason asked the Commission if the lower field at Partridge Brook Park remained wet throughout the spring season. Ronalee informed him during the rainy season last fall; it remained dry and was used by the flag football league.

Jason asked if more land would be developed to create more playing fields. Ronalee said the rest of the fields to be developed, will be mostly utility fields. Due to the wetlands and walking trail there will be only enough room for practice fields. Ronalee used the map to show Jason and Jim where the utility fields will be placed in the future. Jason offered to reach out to the parents of his soccer teams who may have heavy equipment available. Perhaps some would volunteer to clean out stumps prior to the establishment of the utility fields. Ronalee said that she would mention his offer to Lisa P. and that Lisa P. would be in touch.

Seacoast Flag Football

Ronalee made a motion to approve Seacoast Flag Football be grandfathered into Tier 2 for field usage, Ryan seconded the motion. All in favor, motion carried.

Review/Vote to approve minutes from February 13, 2019

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

Review/Vote to approve minutes from February 27, 2019

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

Tortoise and the Hare -2019

Ryan reported that he will be going to the Board of Selectmen on the March 25th for approval of the special events permit for the Tortoise and the Hare. Ronalee asked Lisa D. if the bathrooms would be open by April 13th for the race. Lisa suggested that Leigh-Anne rent port-a-potties just in case the bathrooms are not repaired. Leigh-Anne reported no more donations have been received. Total donations to date are about \$3,300.

Easter Egg Hunt 2019

Leigh-Anne reported that she will be ordering the Easter Egg supplies next week. Ryan responded that he is working on obtaining the volunteers for the event. Mike asked if Elizabeth Hurley had come by to try on the Easter Bunny costume. Leigh-Anne told him she had not as of yet. Ronalee suggested asking Cameron Beevers.

Pickle Ball - Tabled

DCR Park Pass

Leigh-Anne told the Commission that the DCR Park Pass was sent to the Parks and Rec Commission with the request that they monitor the users and gather data regarding which parks are visited throughout the season. Given the extra amount of work this would entail, Lisa P. suggested that the Parks and Rec Commission give the pass to the library since they already have one.

Other Business

Ronalee reported that Salisbury Days is scheduled for September 28th. Parks and Rec has teamed up with the PTA again to host the Brewfest. The band has already been booked and Ronalee has been in contact with the beer distributor. Ryan asked if both bands had been booked. Ronalee will look into that. She listed the events scheduled for the Commission. During the day there will be a cornhole tournament and a muster at Salisbury Beach. Then the Brewfest will be held from 4-7p on Saturday followed by Surfside bringing back the old Frolics and the music that used to be played. One Sunday, the Chamber of Commerce and the Historical Commission will be holding historical tours, a crafts fair, antique show and possibly a baseball tournament between the police and fire departments. Ronalee would like to get other departments together to have a bigger tournament. A cook-off has also been mentioned. Ronalee said the only portion that the Parks and Rec will be involved in will be the Brewfest. Ryan suggested planning activities for the kids during the Salisbury Days to replace the Fall Festival.

Old Business

Beach Field

Ronalee said that the Parks and Rec received \$30,000 from Tidewater when the condominiums were built to be used exclusively for the beach field. The funds will be used to convert the little league field into a softball field. Dean said that the Northeast Hurricanes would be interested in using that field for baseball/softball practices whenever that is available. Dean stated he would also be interested in bartering for the use of the field. He said that the Northeast Hurricanes could take on the responsibility of caring for the field. He explained that in Salem, they handle the mowing, edging, opening and closing of the field for the whole year. In exchange, they get to use the fields. Lisa D. said that in the past, this system has not worked because the organizations do not follow through with maintaining the fields but use them anyway. Dean understood but stated that the fields they maintain are the best kept in the town. He is interested in offering the service for the beach field.

Ronalee said that Angelica Medina is in the process putting out the bid this spring for the work to be done in the fall.

Lions Park

Mike said too many people have keys that should not. In order to stop some of the misuse of the park, perhaps the locks should be changed. Lisa D. suggested that she could go to the park during the week and if there is material left in the bathrooms it would be confiscated and would belong to the town.

Partridge Brook Park Concession Stand

Ronalee reported that the Commission is looking at placing the concession stand in the fall. It will only have 2 bathrooms and no grill. Ronalee and Lisa P. met with the architect last week. He is working on the plans, and the electrician is all set. Lisa P. reported that there is a National Grid issue which needs to be solved regarding an easement over the trail. Lisa P. is also looking for a plumber. Lisa P. said Angelica is researching doors and locks for the concession stand. Time locks are more expensive but in the long run will be a better solution to protect against vandalism. Lisa P. reported that the school now has security cameras that are connected directly to the police department. She is looking into getting security cameras for the concession stand that will be tied into the school cameras system. The concession stand will need to be in place or a post or tree in order to secure the cameras properly. Lights will also be placed for added security.

Other Business

Ronalee told the Commission that over the next 2 years there will be a walking trail built through Partridge Brook Park. It will connect with the walking trail to Newburyport and continue up into Seabrook with a bridge as part of the trail. The portion of the trail that goes through Partridge Brook Park will create a lot of activity which will reduce some of the vandalism.

There will be an ADA accessible playground placed at the tot lot at Partridge Brook Park on May 16th with the assistance of Timberland. Lisa P. said they are looking at 50 to 75 volunteers that day. This is Phase I of the construction. The goal would be to get as many volunteers together as possible so that more projects can be completed at the same time. Mike and Jason said they may be able to get volunteers from the baseball and soccer leagues to assist with the removal of the stumps. Ronalee told the Commission that the Town received a grant to complete the concession stand, irrigation, and security cameras which will be Phase II. Phase III consists of a skate park. There is a partially completed dog park there now and the Commission should have the park completed in the next 2 years. Lisa P. mentioned she is looking into placing a shade shelter and either benches or picnic tables near the tot lot.

Meeting ended at approximately 8:40 p.m.