

Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes – October 2, 2018 **Approved 11-13-2018**

Meeting began at approx. 7:11pm

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

Absent: Mike A., Lisa D.

Guests: Mike Colburn, Shaun Beevers

New Business

Review/Vote to approve minutes from August 22, 2018

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

Pickle Ball - Tabled

Lions Park -

Ronalee reported that the fields were walked last year to determine what needs to be done and that this fall, Lions Park will be professionally closed. The Parks and Rec is willing to work with the Baseball League in the care and maintenance of the given the fact that the budget is tighter because of Triton. The Commission is going to use some of their fund raising money to help support the fields as well. Mike said that if the Parks and Rec want us (Baseball League) to take care of the fields and maintain them during the season, no problem. Just let us know where we need to be and what you are going to do and we will make it happen. Sean commented that he thinks the easiest way to do that is for the Town to do an opening and a closing of the fields. The two (2) fields at Lions Park will be professionally closed and then depending on what work gets done at the Beach Field, we can work from there. The Commission can reassess the fields when they are opened back up. Closing the field entails, edging, turn it up, tilling and rolling. The most important part is the edging so that the weeds are removed. This way in the spring, that is not needed. If the Town is responsible for the opening and closing, then the Baseball League could have a clean-up day that consists of picking up trash or leaves. It would not be field specific. It will be on the league to maintain the fields during the season such as buying the supplies like the chalk and paint to line the field that they would purchase anyway. Sean went on to say that if the fields are maintained during the season and closed at the end of the season then they bounce back in the spring and it is easier to open them. Ronalee said that the ground is getting very hard because it is not raked as often as it should be. Mike Colburn explained that one of the issues is that there is not place at any of the fields to store the necessary equipment to maintain the fields.

Baseball League –

Mike Colburn Vice President of the Baseball League introduced Shaun Beevers as the new President of the Baseball League. Mike Colburn stated that he wanted to introduce Shaun to the Commission and discuss the fees for the use of the fields as well as the condition of the fields now.

Brewfest -

Ronalee asked about volunteers stating that there will be 10 to 14 needed. Mike Colburn from the Baseball League said he would check with the Lions Club to see if he could get any help. Ronalee said that James Ryan now wants all the names of all the Tip certified people for insurance purposes.

Fall Festival - Cancelled for this year

Cameras at Lions Park – Tabled until March 2019

Field Use Fees -

Mike said, in the past, there has been a lack of communication between the Baseball League, Parks and Recreation and the DPW. This is why Mike Colburn and Shaun Beevers joined. Shaun stated that he thinks if we tell the parents they need to pay the \$5 or do community service, then they will pay or the child will not play. We need to find out what the gray area is. Mike stated that the baseball league had heard the Parks and Rec would be charging for players. Ronalee said she has always been a huge opponent of charging. However, the baseball league does little to nothing to care for the fields. She continued saying that she understands there are very few volunteers and parents are not stepping up. The days are gone when there were a lot of participants. She said that Lisa

Pearson suggested that either the parents pay a certain amount or they have to do volunteer hours. The argument from the last presidents was that the DPW is not doing their end of things.

Partridge Brook Park Concession Stand – Tabled

Vote on Field Maintenance

- a. Parks and Rec to pay for Opening and Closing of fields, Ronalee made a motion to approve, Ryan seconded the motion. All in favor.
- b. DPW responsible for maintenance throughout season Ronalee made a motion to approve, Ryan seconded the motion. All in favor.

Other Business – Tabled

Old Business

Beach Field -

Ronalee said there is \$30k to spend on the beach field. Shaun Beevers commented that as long as the grass is cut and the in-field kept as dirt on the back field, it is a good field for t-ball. In the spring it is a bit windy but once the summer hits, it is a great field for the little kids. Sean said that the back field at the beach field will have to be the youth baseball leagues responsibility during the season. The DPW will be caring for the fields, given the limited types of equipment they have. He stated that he and Shaun could do the work to fix the beach field but the other problem that they face is no water. Ronalee suggested that Don Leveque be contacted since he would know if there is a water source at the field that can be tapped into for irrigation. She said that a one point a bathroom placement at the concession stand was discussed for the field use.

Flag Football – Tabled

Volleyball – Tabled

Other Business – Tabled

Meeting ended at approximately 8:28 p.m.