

Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes – April 30, 2018 **Approved 07-09-2018**

Meeting began at approx. 7:05 pm

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

Absent: Lisa D.

New Business

Review/Vote to approve minutes from April 2, 2018

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

10K Tortoises and the Hare Race

Ronalee requested a final meeting with Ashley for the Tortoise and the Hare recap. The proceeds from the race came to about \$4,600 in cash. The pre-registration was up this year but the walk-ins were down (220). Sean added that this may have been due to the Gorilla Run in Ipswich. Ronalee said that Tom's Discount donated a \$100 gift card and 5 Elements Property gave a \$150 gift certificate for yard work. The Commission members agreed to use the Tom's Discount gift card for items needed for the Fall Festival and the Easter Egg Hunt for next year. Ronalee suggested that the 5 Elements gift certificate be given to one of the participants. The Commission members decided that the participant will be selected by random drawing. Leigh-Anne and Ronalee will be contacting the eligible sponsors to ensure that they received their race t-shirts.

Pickle ball

Leigh-Anne told the Commission that the lines for the pickle ball court will be painted the week of June 11th. Ronalee suggested a grand opening for pickle ball with a tournament. She asked that someone reach out the local Pickle Ball Ambassador to plan a Pickle Ball Grand Opening and advertise with the newspaper. She will also be contacting Liz at the Senior Center to see if the elderly would be like to participate in the opening day events for the court.

Beach Field

Ryan said this fall we want to re-do the fields. Ronalee and Sean mentioned that recently, there was a man at the beach T-ball field who was fixing it on his own. Sean said that Lisa D. is supposed to be creating a scope of work so the Commission would have a list of field care needs. It is already May, so she needs create it quickly. Once the scope is completed; it has to be sent out to bid immediately in order for the work to start in the fall. A walk through should be planned for the companies interested in working on the project. Ronalee will be emailing Lisa P. and the Commission members to coordinate the items to be listed in the scope of work.

Sean also mentioned that the bleachers are a hazard and need to be taken away. If there is money left over after the fields are re-done, maybe the excess can be used to get new bleachers.

Lions Park

Leigh-Anne stated that the urinal was broken. Sean asked if the DPW had ordered a new toilet. Leigh-Anne answered – not yet. Leigh-Anne then asked if the Commission would be willing to pay for half of the repair. Ronalee said the Parks and Rec have never paid for repairing items before. Ryan requested a quote from Angelica before the work is done on urinal. Ronalee has already spoken to Lisa P. and said she requested \$3000 to \$5000 be pulled out of the revolving fund for the upkeep of the park. Lisa P. told her that they would have to start charging Salisbury teams for using the field but even at \$5 a person that will not be enough to care for the field. Sean said if money is put aside each season and used to properly close the field; it will be less work in the

spring to open them. Ronalee said we have two ways to get the money: fund raising and fees; they are separate line items. Problem is we are not getting enough money from the field use so we may have to dip into the fund raising for repairs and maintenance. Ryan did not agree. Ronalee stated that she does not want to build Partridge Brook Park while the other fields falling apart. Sean suggested that perhaps all fees received for field use go to their maintenance. Any costs that exceed those fees would have to be covered by the town. Also, there are also some of the teams that do in-kind services which will alleviate some of the costs.

Murals are tabled for now. Ryan spoke to one of the art teachers requesting information on the progress of the murals and he was told the teacher would get back to him. There will also be AP testing for the next few weeks.

Sean mentioned that the playground needs new wood chips. If the area is measured and about 3" or 4" are added it should be enough to protect the kids from injury. Ronalee will see if Lisa P. can negotiate for the chips to be donated.

Brewfest

Brewfest is scheduled for October 13th. Ronalee said we need to get started with planning. The Commission needs to decide if they want to do this with the PTA or the local Boys & Girls Club. Both ways, there are not a lot of sponsorship proceeds even if the costs are split. Ronalee will be reaching out to the President of the PTA – Jennifer. Ryan was concerned that the Commission would be burning bridges by not using the Boys & Girls Club. Ronalee said that it would not be a problem except, we could not use their building in case it rains. The Brewfest could possibly use the Senior Center but we need to check to see if alcohol can be brought into that building. The Commission members discussed using Lion's Park parking lot, tennis courts, basketball court all as possible spaces for set up.

Baseball Field

Ronalee said Lisa D., Ronalee, and Sean met with two members of the baseball league. The problem they found was that the fields have gone to ruin because they have not maintained. The Commission, according to Ronalee, has not had to care for the field before now. The Saturday before the Commission meeting, Sean and some others went to the field and repaired some things. Sean reported that the DPW has not mowed the field or fixing the dugout.

Boys & Girls Club Field Use

Boys & Girls Club will be using the field for during the summer as long as a paying team does not need/want to use it.

Corn Hole

Ronalee stated that the Corn Hole Tournament is July 14th. Lisa P. will be reaching out the Ipswich Brewery and Zelus Brewery to have beer trucks there. The participants would get a special pass to go into the beer area but would still have to pay for their alcohol. Salisbury Parks and Rec would get a percentage of the sales. Ronalee said that the Commission would be volunteering for the day but the Winners Circle representatives would be handling the event.

Other Business

Ryan asked if there was a need for the Memorial Field anymore to which Ronalee answered, yes, Babe Ruth League still uses it. Ryan was hoping that the field could be sold lowering some of the Parks and Rec costs.

Gaga Ball – Lisa P. is trying to assist an Eagle Scout candidate to create a Gaga Ball pit at the one of the fields. Sean explained what Gaga Ball is and then Ryan agreed to meet with the Eagle Scout Candidate and Lisa P. Lion's Park has a flat surface by the tennis court and the parking lot or playground which would be a good spot to place the pit.

Old Business

Skate Park @ Partridge Brook Park - Tabled

Partridge Brook Park Concession Stand

Ronalee reported that the delivery of the concession stand is happening in June. Ryan asked if it was painted or not and Ronalee did not know yet. She added that the shell may just be arriving in June. Lisa P. is negotiating for extra items needed for the stand and is waiting for the area to dry up before it is placed. Ronalee continued by saying that the stand with the bathrooms will not be ready for spring or summer so Jeff Johnson will not have that additional cost until fall. Leigh-Anne will find out if the DPW has an aerator. Sean and Ronalee had concerns over the different types of sports being played on the field with no irrigation. Ronalee thought the cost for an irrigation system would be about \$50,000.

Dog Park Sponsorship - Tabled

Flag Football

Ronalee said that Jeff Johnson fertilizes with Sea of Green and re-seeds the fields for about \$2,000. Jeff Johnson has been caring for the field as in-kind services. He stated in an email to Ronalee that there are other fields that cost the same but have port-a-toilets and other amenities available whereas Partridge Brook Park does not.

Volleyball

Keith who is a participant of the volleyball games has now been promoting the games. He has recruited a lot of new players from as far away as Portsmouth. The games are 5 on 5 or more each week and there is a new app to help coordinate teams Ronalee reported. She is able to sit back now and enjoy playing while Keith has run with the activity.

Other Business

Sean, Lisa P., Ronalee want to have a meeting with the Youth Lacrosse to discuss their field use needs. Ronalee would like to set up a new tier for them. Sean will reach out to Ed Trogen, of the Youth Lacrosse to open discussions.

Meeting ended at approximately 8:12 p.m.