

Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes – November 13, 2018 [Approved 01-16-2019](#)

Meeting began at approx. 7:01pm

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

Absent: Mike A.,

Guests: Mike Colburn, Angelica Medina, Jeff Johnson

**New Business**

Flag Football

Sean thanked Jeff Johnson for attending the meeting. He and Jeff agreed that in the future there would be a better line of communication between the football league and the Commission for field use. Jeff expressed concern that the fields be maintained in the future. Ronalee informed Jeff that the Commission would be taking over the care of the fields and hiring a company such as Sea of Green to care for all the fields in the Town. The Town also received a grant that will enable them to install irrigation and complete the Concession Stand. She told Jeff that both the Lacrosse and Soccer Leagues have reached out to Salisbury to use the fields as well because Manters Field has become too expensive to utilize. She continued in saying that Salisbury is going to have to raise prices for the use of the fields however, this increase will be to only cover the costs for the care of the fields. The Commission will be conducting a survey of fees charged by area towns for use of their fields. The Commission will then set the fees for Salisbury.

Review/Vote to approve minutes from October 2, 2018

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

Lions Park

Angelica said even though she has been working hard to find a company to close the fields, she has been unsuccessful in finding one willing to close the Lions Park fields this fall. However, Mike Colburn has been kind enough to offer his services to close fields this fall only. Angelica asked Sean what closing the fields entail. Sean responded with the following list: edge everything, pull weeds, rake all the leaves and removed them, edge the in-field, rototill the dirt, and smooth it out by rolling it.

Angelica informed the Commission that the mulch could not be put down until the spring. According to Ray Cote, the DPW Foreman told her that if the mulch is put in during the fall, there will be too much moisture seeping into it and it will not be good by spring. Ray also told Angelica that the mulch will be in before opening day. Ronalee suggested setting up a calendar for scheduling future tasks that the Commission is responsible for.

Mike Colburn described problems with the dugouts at Lions Park to the attending Commission members. The field has actually sunk. The concrete pad for the dugout at the softball field has been pushed up in the past due to water collecting under it that freezes in the winter. By the dugout, there is a fence post with a concrete slug under it and water is getting trapped there too. Mike created a trench around the dugout to alleviate some of the water build up. However, now the water is staying on the field and causing everything to get pushed up. Angelica stated that the dugouts need to be rebuilt. She suggested contacting Timberland or the Lion's Club for volunteers to rebuild them. Lisa said that local companies sometimes have volunteer days where they assist in community projects. Ronalee told the Commission that Lisa Pearson works with Timberland each year on projects. Since the Commission will be paying someone to complete the Partridge Brook Park project, perhaps Timberland would be willing to work on the dugouts instead this year instead.

Angelica said Ray Cote is replacing the photocells in the lights around the park (i.e. Tennis Park and walkway). This will allow the Salisbury Police more visibility when they go down there to patrol and may also decrease vandalism. She will also be checking on the grant for new cameras to be placed at Lions Park. Angelica received a quote a while back for the replacement of the cameras from NetTech which has now become ECI Communications. These cameras would be linked right to the Police Station. Angelica is hoping that it is still a useable quote.

Ronalee said that the opening of the fields might need to go out to bid. Angelica said that it may not but the Commission must use best business practices if the cost is under \$10,000. The Commission would have to give everyone the same spec for the work to be done. It must be in writing. No verbal contracts.

### Brewfest

Ronalee informed the Commission that the final meeting for the Brewfest would be meeting on November 14, 2018 and that the Parks and Rec Commission would be earning roughly \$2,600 for the event. Angelica and Leigh-Anne believe that the final figure is slightly less than that but it is still better than last year. Ryan asked if the Brewfest was something the Commission would like to do again next year and the answer was a resounding – Yes! Ronalee said it may be scheduled for September next year but the turnout and feedback was great. There were about 150 participants even though it was a cold night. Angelica asked if the Commission was planning to have it down at the beach again next year. Ryan said it depended on whether it would be combined with Salisbury Days. If that is the case then it would be held at either Lions Park or Memorial Field.

### Field Use Fees

Angelica informed the Commission that the fees needed to be voted on for an update. Ronalee requested that a fee survey be done on surrounding towns. The results of this will assist the Commission in deciding what fees would be reasonable to charge for field use. Leigh-Anne was tasked with completing this before for next Parks and Rec Commission meeting.

### Partridge Brook Park Concession Stand – Tabled

Ronalee said the next step is to get the utilities out to the field for the concession stand. She reported that the Town received a grant for \$225,000. Lisa interjected that this grant will cover irrigation, security cameras, the cost of the irrigation, etc. for all the fields at Partridge Brook Park.

### Fitness Court Program

Lisa reported to the Commission that she had received an email from a company that wants to set up a fitness court in the Town of Salisbury. She explained that a fitness court is a court set up with various pieces of exercise equipment for the residents use. The company that builds these courts have sponsor funding to build 200, outdoor gyms across the country as part of their 2019 Healthy Cities initiative. All which is free to the public. Funding will be allocated in the next 120 days. Ronalee stated that the Commission had enough projects being worked on currently and does not have the time or place to put this fitness court.

### Tortoise and the Hare - 2019

Ronalee informed the other Commission members that the race had been scheduled for April 13, 2019. She asked the Commission members if that date was alright. Everyone agreed with the date.

### Other Business

Angelica asked the Commission members if anyone had heard news about the GaGa Ball Pit that was being built at the Memorial Field. Liam Gately was going to build it as an Eagle Scout project this fall but there has been no news on the progress to date.

Ryan informed the Commission that Mike Astuccio had not written a resignation letter for the Parks and Rec Commission. He therefore suggested that Mike be voted off the Commission since he is not able to attend the meetings. Ronalee made a motion that due Mike Astuccio's busy schedule, that he be removed from the Parks and Rec Commission, Ryan seconded the motion. All in favor, motion approved.

## **Old Business**

### Beach Field

Lisa asked the Commission members if putting in an irrigation system at the Beach field after it is converted from a little league field into a softball field was an option. Ronalee said that the cost may be prohibitive considering that the Commission only has \$30,000 to work with and the quotes received regarding the Partridge Brook Park irrigation were \$50,000 or more. Mike interjected that Partridge Brook Park would need 2" piping for its irrigation while the Beach Field would only need 1" piping. Angelica stated that the Town Common has 1" piping and is a seasonal meter. Then Ronalee said that the stubbing is the most expensive part of the project. Even though a softball field has less grass, the dirt would need to be watered down to reduce the dust.

### Volleyball

Ronalee said volleyball is amazing right now. The night before there was 14 players. The lowest number of players to participate was 11.

### Other Business

Ryan emailed Liz Pettis at the Hilton Senior Center regarding the pickle ball equipment. Liz said that they would find a location to store the equipment if someone could bring it over from the DPW.

Mike Colburn spoke to Martignetti's about the hot top for the walkway around the concession stand at Lions Park. Mike said that Mark agreed to \$2.95 per sq. ft. and now all he needs is to find someone who will donate in-kind services to install. The Commission will be given the bricks at the whole sale price as a favor to the Town.

Leigh-Anne reported that a resident requested a new basketball hoop be put up at Memorial Park. The old one is not in good shape. Ronalee said that the resident can go over to Lions Park right down the street and use the one there. Angelica added that the Police Department could be approached on this as they may have funds for community outreach and this is a small amount for nets.

Meeting ended at approximately 8:16 p.m.