

Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes – December 1, 2015 **Approved 01-12-2016**

Meeting began at approx. 6:08 pm

Present: Ronalee P., Sean T., Ryan M., Mike R., Don L., Angelica M.

New Business

Review/Vote to approve minutes from 10/20/2015

Motion to approve made by Ronalee, second motion made by Sean. Three in favor, one abstention. Minutes approved as written. Tortoise and the Hare 2016

Ronalee met with Ashley Steeves of High5EM to discuss partnering with her company. They would help direct the race. Ronalee believes that it would help to hire a co race director to do a lot of the footwork for a small fee, with a guarantee to increase the registration numbers. The cost would be about \$1,000 to hire her plus the expense for the timing company. This needs to be agreed upon with PARC grant subcommittee as well because the Tortoise and the Hare is now under their purview. Ronalee also suggested holding smaller fundraisers instead of the Tortoise and the Hare due to the amount of time that is involved with organizing this race. She puts in about 60-100 hours. Ryan suggested doing the Newburyport Brewing Company fundraiser again as it raised around \$1,200. Sean thinks that it might be worth taking a shot hiring Ashley, even for a year, to see how it works out. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Brewfest 2016

Ronalee, Lisa, and Angelica met with Jim Keenan to partner up with Jim for the Brewfest. He has more connections and can bring in more sponsorship money. Ronalee is confident in his ability to find sponsors for the Brewfest. Ronalee, Lisa, and Angelica would be responsible for the other work. The Commission would split the profits 50/50.

Field Use Fees

Ronalee brought up the field use fees and the need to reevaluate them again. Sean suggested charging per head. This all depends on how the Town is set up and how the sports organization is set up. A lot of Towns use tier system. Tier 1 could be youth sports with 95% Salisbury residents, etc. Hamilton does youth (90% Hamilton residents) \$10 per participant. Tier 2 is \$15 a head, Tier 3 is adult which is charged per hour. Another thing to look at is adding a light fee or a concession stand fee as well as charges per season. Some Towns ask for rosters and make sure that the numbers add up. If the kids are scholarship then the Town does not charge. Hamilton Wenham does not line or stripe the fields. They line the baseball diamonds, buy the clay, and hire a company to close the baseball fields. The field maintenance is a combination of DPW work and hired companies. Don worries that with the Partridge Brook Park opening there is going to be a need for more help with parks and cemeteries. Mike says that the baseball league is not looking too promising due to a need for volunteers. Numbers have been dwindling and due to the lack of people volunteering, it may be easier to just pay to have the work done. Referees are the responsibility of the league as well as disciplinary action. Hamilton makes sure the leagues are CORI checked, insurance, guidelines for weather, etc. Sean is going to send an email with field use fee information. The Commission is going to look over the information and come to a decision the next meeting.

Other Business:

None at this time.

Old Business:

PARC Grant

Ronalee reported that PARC grant subcommittee is meeting next week. Ronalee and the committee are trying to figure out how to raise more money. Phase II cannot begin until more money is raised. Volunteers went to the Partridge Brook

Park last weekend and cleaned the dog park. Don stated that he held back retainage because he does not like how the field looks.

Basketball area at Beach

Don thinks that the basketball area is being used a lot. The DPW did the labor and the Police Department paid for the hoop. Don plans on putting another hoop in and striping the park appropriately. The skate park is in rough shape and needs to be addressed next.

Volleyball

Ronalee stated that Volleyball started up again last night. 8 people came to play. Volleyball is held every Monday from 6-7:30 at the boys and Girls Club.

Other Business

Don thinks that for the Fall Festival the Commission should start thinking about finding a tractor and trailer for next year. Ryan thinks that we had a good turnout. Ronalee would say we had about 150 kids. Don thinks that the Commission needs to set a date and find out how much it would cost. Ronalee thinks that we would have more children if we switch the event to a Sunday. This would eliminate the conflict with flag football and other sports events. The Commission has to look into price on tractor and trailer or reinvent the fall festival.

Meeting ended at approximately 7:15 pm.