

Parks & Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes – March 1, 2018 [Approved 04-02-2018](#)

Meeting began at approx. 6:40 pm

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

Guests: Mike Colburn, Angelica Medina, Ken Lennon, Nate Ingalls, T. J. Rowe, Mike Roberge

Absent: Lisa D.

New Business

Review/Vote to approve minutes from January 3, 2018

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

Easter Egg Hunt

Ryan announced he has volunteers for the Easter Egg Hunt and will have a head count closer to March 24th. Sean responded that he can provide the cupcakes and Ronalee will be handling the face paints.

10K Tortoises and the Hare Race

Ronalee announced that Ashley Steeves of High5EM has a new beer company Zelus sponsoring this year's race. Ryan will be put on the agenda with the Board of Selectmen to obtain a liquor license for race day. Leigh-Anne will contact Institution for Savings about swag bags for the participants. Ronalee will be placing mile markers on the course.

Pickle ball

Ronalee said the Commission will use the revolving fund to set up the court for residents to play pickle ball.

Beach Field

T.J. Rowe and Nate Ingalls of the baseball league asked for clarification on their responsibilities for the baseball fields. They wanted to have specific tasks listed between the DPW and the baseball league on the care of the fields. Ronalee and Sean agreed but the Commission needs more information on costs before a decision can be made for updating the field. Mike Roberge suggested signs could be erected like "No Smoking or No Alcohol". These signs would be paid for by local companies who could advertise their logo on it. The cost of the sign would pay for some of the repair and updates to the field as well. A score board could be added for the benefit of the teams as well.

Tree Warden - Tabled

Lions Park

Ronalee said the Commission is working on having murals painted on the buildings at Lion's Park. These murals would be primarily sports activities. The thought behind this is that it may deter the graffiti artists from returning. Mike Colburn suggested using the anti-graffiti paint to help protect the murals. Angelica said the DPW purchased the special paint to use the last time graffiti was found on the buildings. However, Mike Roberge informed the Commission that the paint was not applied.

Angelica informed the Commission that the utility closet lock needs to be repaired in the Lion's Park Concession Stand. Mike Roberge stated that the baseball league does not really use it. Nate Ingalls mentioned that there is a piece of siding at the concession stand by the sink that is rotting away. Angelica concurred and added that it's discentigrating. The hole is larger than first thought and will need to be repaired. She also stated that if new cameras were to be purchased, they could go directly to the Salisbury Police Station for surveillance. Port-a-toilets could also be placed at the park for the times when the bathrooms are not accessible. The public toilets are only open when the field is in use by the leagues. All other times they are inaccessible so the port-a-toilets are a good solution for the residents using the park at all other times. Lights are also an issue Angelica noted. They need to be redirected or moved for more illumination by the concession stand and other dark areas. These lights should have motion sensors and go on

automatically. Nate also said that the bleachers were in need of replacement as well as the dugout. He went on to say that the bleachers are in such disrepair they are a hazard in their current condition. Mike Roberge described the condition of the dugout and explained that part of the repair/replacement of it would entail digging out the space, leveling it with cement before the structure could be done. Angelica stated that the ball field at Lion's Park is not being kept up as well as the other fields. Mike Roberge also described the condition of the fields. He said that they are sunken in areas and it needs to be leveled out. The infield has dead grass and dirt. It will need irrigation, seeding etc. in preparation for the season. Nate Ingalls described the opening season with the lack of parental participation. He said the league tries to make it a fun day providing food for the worker and there is virtually no response from the parents. Ronalee commented that it was a shame how parents are less involved with their children's activities now-a-days. The parents are not held responsible.

Mike Colburn asked about irrigation to the field. He described how the infield has dead grass and dirt while the outfield is healthier. During the summer with the water ban, the Town of Salisbury is unable to use the water to care for town property. Angelica said there is water stubbed there. Water would be available to irrigate the field.

Other Business

Ronalee brought up the possibility of having a corn hole tournament at the beach. She also mentioned there will be a meeting with Tom, from the volleyball League, possibly at the Winners Circle to discuss this. The teams could play throughout the summer and have a final tournament in August.

Memorial Field – Ronalee stated there will be no concession stand at the ball field. Nate Ingalls of the baseball league reported on the condition of the field and the sink hole at the pitcher's mound. Ronalee asked if a meeting could be scheduled with Lisa DeMeo to discuss what needs to be done to update the fields. Lisa and the baseball league will have to determine what DPW and the baseball league will each be responsible for to repair the fields and maintain them in the future. T.J. Rowe mentioned that there is also an issue with other organizations using the field and not caring for it. Sean gave the example of the little league in Wenham. They pay a fee and then the Wenham DPW cares for the field.

Old Business

Skate Park @ Partridge Brook Park

Ronalee reported to the Commission received no grant this year. The Commission is applying again and should know in the fall if it is granted.

Partridge Brook Park Concession Stand

Ronalee informed the Commission that the PARC Grant received last year will be going toward the shell of the concession stand. This should be installed sometime next fall.

Mike Colburn of the Lions Club would like to name the playground area after a longtime supporter of the community. The benefactor has worked tirelessly for 50 years through the Lion's Club. Ronalee suggested a bench with his name on it be placed by the playground. However, Mike Colburn said that the family of this resident may be interested in donating a new playground setup to the park that would include handicap accessibility in return for the playground being named after him. Sean mentioned that even though this is a municipal property, the town does not have to send this project out to bid, however, the town must still pay prevailing wage. Ronalee will be checking on the costs for this and getting back to the Commission with her findings.

Dog Park Sponsorship

Angelica wanted to know where the dog license fees go. Would it be a possibility to use some of those funds for the park? Sean stated that the Stanton Foundation is a local company that donates to local communities. In other communities they have paid up to 100% of the full design cost and may pay up to 90% of the construction costs for a dog park. The foundation only gives out 10 grants per year and three have already been awarded. The Commission will investigate this possibility further.

Flag Football

Sean discussed the fees for field usage and the costs of maintaining the field. Angelica explained that Jeff Johnson who heads the flag football league currently gives in-kind services in exchange for field use. Mike Colburn informed the Commission that there are more people using the field than originally thought. Sean did some quick math of head

counts/games played/players per team etc. and the costs vs. in-kind services do not equal. Sean requested the Commission view the roster and the schedule to determine the fees for this season. Angelica will be emailing Jeff to obtain the requested information.

Angelica suggested having a fixed fee in addition to the fee per participant. The fixed fee would be designated for water, lights and other expenses for the care and maintenance of the field. Sean mentioned that in Wenham, the leagues pay this fixed fee which covers all the maintenance and upkeep of the fields done by the DPW.

Volleyball - Tabled

Other Business

Ryan asked that the Brewfest be placed on agenda for next meeting. Brewfest will be scheduled at Lion's Park sometime in the late summer or early fall.

Guests:

Meeting ended at approximately 8:10 p.m.