

PARKS COMMISSIONERS
MASON LIBRARY
231 MAIN STREET
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2012
5:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

PAUL GIBBONS

CHARLES BOUTEILLER

THOMAS NORTON

STEVE BANNON - ABSENT

PATRICIA SALVI

KATHY PLUNGIS

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

MOTION: Ms. Plungis to approve the Minutes of November 26, 2012.

SECOND: Mr. Bouteiller

VOTE: 5-0

2. **PARKS CARE AND MAINTENANCE AND (3) OLD BUSINESS:**

Joe said he and Charlie looked at the softball shed at Olympian Meadows. The plan is to take down the walls and put up new walls. The roof will be made secure. He advised that the work can be done in house and the cost will be about \$2,500 for materials. The blocks will be taken down and it will be make it out of wood. A new door will be put in. It was noted that little league would use it if Girls softball doesn't use it.

MOTION: Charlie to approve up to \$2,500 to fix the shed.

SECOND: Kathy Plungis

VOTE: 5-0

The water line to the snack shack: Joe presented a diagram showing where the water and sewer lines will be located. The blue is for water and the red is for sewer. The lines run about 500 feet. The sewer line is force main and you can't tie into that. We will have to tie into the manhole to make it work. Each line would be about \$10.00 a foot or \$5000.00 for each line plus a pump for \$4,000 for a total of approximately \$15,000. It was noted that in September the committee voted to spend up to \$10,000 to add a sewer line and replace the water line.

MOTION: Kathy Plungis to approve up to \$5,000 for the pump station at Olympian Meadows.

SECOND: Charlie Bouteiller

VOTE: 5-0

The lines will be installed by Joe Wilkinson.

Repairs of Fences at Memorial Field:

Joe said the cost to repair the existing fence (in green on the diagram) is \$850.00. The replacement of the fence (in red) is \$4,995.00 to install 200 feet of 6' high chain link fence. This includes all the labor and materials. The yellow is the existing fence.

MOTION: Charlie to approve the expenditure of the funds for the repair and replacement of the fences.

SECOND: Kathy Plungis

VOTE: 5-0

Joe said he is still discussing the lights at Memorial Field with National Grid. The skate ramp was fixed. The lip around the bowl will be repaired in the spring. The contract agreement with Berkshire South was sent out. The back board and rim for Housatonic is \$600.00 plus shipping. It was noted that more mulch and infield mix will need to be purchased.

4. **BERKSHIRE SOUTH:**

Laura Martin introduced Lauren Pellegrino who is the new fitness and wellness manager. Laura noted that she is concerned about preventive maintenance on the swings at Lake Mansfield and the signs are still missing. Joe said it is going to court and we are looking for replacement costs for the damage that was done. Paul said he will order all the signs in March. The first weekend in May will be the beginning of the staffing at the skate park. Laura also asked about the possibility of the Parks funding approximately \$400 to \$500 for the annual Fishing Derby in June. She noted she will return in March with something more formal. Laura was advised the contact the Fish and Game.

5. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. **Chris Rembold – Feedback on draft Open Space and Recreation Plan:** Chris noted that a draft of the open space and recreation plan was submitted to the board in March. He noted that the plan does not include any new parks. It also notes that 50% of the population lives within a ½ mile of a park. The plan concentrates on promoting existing parks. It includes adding one staff person to the DPW/Cemetery Parks so that maintenance can be done. It was noted that Page: 19, Table 2 is under Parks and not Conservation. The adding of bike racks and extending the river walk south down to the senior center is in the Master Plan. The second public forum on the open space plan will be next month.

B. **Housatonic Playground Improvement:** Tom advised that he met with John LaRue from Big Toys and they reviewed the equipment at Grove Street Park, Olympian Meadows, Housatonic and Lake Mansfield. At Grove Street Park the jungle gym needs to be brought up to code. The pulleys on the swings at Olympian Meadows need to be replaced. It was noted that additional equipment could possibly be added to the right side. Olympian Meadows is on the low priority list. Lake Mansfield – the jungle gym is fine. He advised that the swing set needs to be replaced. Housatonic – He said the playground structure really has outlived its life span. It was built in 1992. The slide has a crack. Where the jungle gym and cross bars are located are not within the safety code and are too close to the fence. It was decided to remove the entire structure. The decision was for the board to look at what is available and make a decision in March and April to replace the equipment.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Wichmann
Secretary