

PARKS COMMISSIONERS
MASON LIBRARY
231 MAIN STREET
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230
MONDAY, MAY 12, 2014
5:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

PAUL GIBBONS

CHARLES BOUTEILLER

THOMAS NORTON

STEPHEN BANNON

PATRICIA SALVI

KATHY PLUNGIS

KAREN SMITH

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

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A. **Minutes of April 14, 2014**

MOTION: Karen Smith to approve

SECOND: Stephen Bannon

VOTE: 7-0

2. **PARKS CARE AND MAINTENANCE:**

A. Updates from Joe Sokul - He noted the water and sewer line has been finished at Olympian Meadows. A plumber will have to hook up the sinks and an electrician will hook up the panel to the pump station. It was noted that the encumbered \$24,000 includes the lines and fixtures. The capital remaining is about \$8,400. Joe said a Request for Applicability for the proposed changing station at Lake Mansfield will be going before the Conservation Commission. The attorney general has approved all the bylaws so now the Parks and Recreation can increase the board by two members. Karen advised she would get in touch with Amanda from Railroad Street. The signs regarding helmet use at the skate park have been received. The fields and ball parks have been mowed. Joe noted that there are no recycling bins at Memorial Field. Garbage cans and recycle cans expense can come out of that. Our Repair and Maintenance account has \$2,295 in it. The water fountains are on at the parks. A new fountain will be coming for Memorial Field and Grove Street.

MOTION: Karen Smith that recycling bins be put at all the town parks.

SECOND: Charlie Bouteiller

VOTE: 7-0

3. **PARKS USAGE REQUESTS:**

A. Fairview Hospital, 29 Lewis Avenue, Great Barrington, MA to use the Town Hall Bandstand Green from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (Event 5:00 p. m. to 8:00 p.m.) on Saturday, September 20, 2014. The tent will be setup on Friday September 19th and removed September 22, 2014. Amy Rudnick was present to explain the request. Amy advised that they will not be doing the fireworks this year so they are not requesting to use Memorial Field.

MOTION: Karen Smith to approve the request.

SECOND: Kathy Plungis

VOTE: 7-0

4. **OLD BUSINESS:**

A. **Fees for parks usage** – Karen noted that groups that are using the town parks and generating revenue need to pay some kind of fee. The committee needs to review the situation with the Board of Selectmen. Paul said he would contact the Selectmen’s Office about being included on an agenda.

MOTION: Pat Salvi to pursue a policy for usage fee for our parks.

SECOND: Karen Smith

VOTE: 7-0

B. **Remaining Capital Funds** - \$8,400. Stephen Bannon said the reason he requested capital funds be on the agenda is that there was some discussion with the Selectmen that about reducing the capital in FY15. He noted it is important that we spend it all to justify the money. He suggested spending the current balance for benches, picnic tables, and some additional trees in Housatonic. It was noted to invite Emily Shaw to a meeting to get some input. The \$8,000 can be carried over at the end of June 2014 and \$4,000 can be added for FY15. Kathy said that they were looking for individual things that would total about \$12,000. Joe said he thought the committee agreed to pay for ½ of the changing station. A small basketball hoop needs to be replaced at the Grove Street Park. Karen advised that the committee will need a detailed list of the costs of the items by the June 9, 2014 meeting.

MOTION: Karen that we concentrate the remaining \$8,000 FY 14 Capital Funds for the Housatonic Park.

SECOND: Charlie Bouteillier

VOTE: 7-0

Tom Norton said he would contact Emily Shaw about attending the June 9, 2014 meeting.

C. **Naming the Housatonic Park** – Paul Gibbons said we can recommend a name to the Board of Selectmen. Karen Smith suggested that the people of Housatonic come up with suggestions. Tom Norton said he thought it should be called Housatonic Village Common.

MOTION: Tom Norton that it be called the Housatonic Village Common.

SECOND: Kathy Plungis

VOTE: 7-0

AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION:

Karen Smith amended the motion that the Park and Recreation Commission publicize that we are thinking of naming the Housatonic area as the Housatonic Village Common and would request any input at the June 9, 2014 meeting and at that point we will make a decision.

SECOND: Charlie Bouteiller

VOTE: 7-0

D. **Parks Rules** - A copy is attached to these minutes. The rules will be added to the signs at the Parks. Karen Smith said she wants to see a proof of the sign previous to them being made.

MOTION: Stephen Bannon to approve the Parks Rules.

SECOND: Karen Smith

VOTE: 7-0

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Berkshire South Regional Community Center – Laura Martin was present. Laura noted that the skate park was staffed two weeks ago. Lake Mansfield will be staffed beginning Memorial Day weekend. Christine Ward will coordinate the weed fabric instillation. Laura said uniform shirts will have to be ordered for the Lake Mansfield staff. Housatonic Park will be staffed beginning July 1, 2014. There is 600' of rope in the shed and the lock is fixed.

B. Little League - Brian Mead requested more infield mix. He noted that he did some pricing and a truck load of infield mix is \$2,750 which includes the cost of delivery. He advised that they have funding for it and they need it for the minor league field. Brian asked if the town had some funding that could offset the cost to the Little League. He said he would make up the difference to the town's donation account. The expected expenditures for the rest of the year is about \$2,200 for trophies, and about \$2,000 for hats, tee shirts, etc. Infield mix was purchased three years ago. Half was for the little league field and half was for the softball field.

MOTION: Karen Smith that the Parks and Recreation contribute \$1,000 to Little League for infield mix.

SECOND: Stephen Bannon

VOTE: 7-0

MOTION: Stephen Bannon that Parks and Recreation purchase a truck load of infield mix for Memorial Field.

SECOND: Karen Smith

VOTE: 7-0

Paul said he would work out how the money from Little League is put into the donation account.

6. **NEXT MEETING DATE:**

A. June 9, 2014

7. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Wichmann
Clerk