

Present: Members: Phil Sanborn, Geoff Carlton, John Shea, Dawn Genes, Alternates: Sylvio Therault, Cynthia McClain, and Guests: Stacey Bender, Steve Green, Frank Derocci, Jim Brady, Rich Von Oyen, and Mariann Banks

Minutes from the April meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Revolving account - \$3,649.26 Playground Phase 1 - \$15,262 remaining

Lee Country Fair

Richard Van Oyen, chair of the Lee Country Fair, spoke about ideas for the Lee Country Fair. Bob Watson came to the Fair committee to ask if the group would like to have the fair at the racetrack. It would be a totally different event than what it is like now. The Committee did not make any commitments. More discussion with the Committee was if Little River Park might be a good location for the Fair. The 2011 Fair will take place on September 10 at the same location. The Police Chief is concerned about traffic during the Fair and parking. Some new Fair Committee members are needed to carry on with this event.

Maryanne Banks had some ideas. Three organizations host the Fair: The Lee Church, The Grange and the Fireman's Association. This group plans and organizes the entire event and divides any profits among these three groups. Some donations are made to the scouts.

Additional groups would like to participate but due to insurance costs, the Fair Committee has not been able to have tractors, live animals, etc. at the Fair. Sponsorship pays for about half of the income. The booth space goes for \$35 per booth. In the last several years, the booths have been rented to artisans and the car show. Booths with food need limited liability insurance.

About a thousand people attend each year. The dinner serves about 300.

Maryanne is proposing that there be a new Fair Board formed that included the traditional groups plus some new groups, such as the Agriculture Commission, Recreation Commission and Historical Society.

Some people had commented that the Fair and Little River Fest should be combined. There is room for only 88 cars in the Little River Park parking lot. Phil mentioned that the current location is nice and is in close proximity to the park.

The Fair Committee was told by the Lee Recreation Commission that we are interested in further discussion and are open to the possibility of hosting the Lee Country Fair at Little River Park in 2012. All present expressed that we don't want to see this great Lee tradition stay alive.

Easter Egg Hunt

Turn-out was still good in spite of the weather. It was 37 degrees and raining with a little bit of snow. There was only about 20% fewer kids. The parents were pretty wet and unhappy but the kids had fun. Walgreens in Lee helped provide some of the candy for the eggs. A big thanks goes to Judy Belanger who filled over 2,000 eggs with the help of little friends.

Lee Fishing Derby

Registrations are coming in. Signs are up all over town thanks to Mark Kustra who got us the signs at cost.

Grills are needed to be brought to the fire station. AGR will be helping with the cookout. Location is at the Town Field unless it is raining in which case it will be at the Safety Complex.

John Shea arranged for getting porta-potties delivered to the Stevens Farm on Friday and they will be picked up on Monday.

Little River Park

Playground Improvements:

Steve Green has researched many playground equipment suppliers. The items to be purchased are slides and some additional pieces for inside the sandbox.

Motion made by Geoff to authorize Steve up to \$9,000 for chutes and ladder hill and three additional apparatuses for the sandpit upon approval from the selectmen. John seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Installation is planned for immediately after delivery. A work day will be organized to get lots of people there to help install. Temporary storage might be necessary to secure the items until installation.

Also planned is a climbing structure will cost about \$19,000. It is made of steel and cord and is 30' wide by 12'10" high in a hexagon shape which looks like a pyramid. The highest drop from this structure is only 4'. A protected area of about 38' square is needed with one foot of sand base overtopped with wood chips. There will be other prices were for more than \$20,000 and up.

Geoff made the motion to authorize Sylvio to receive bids for a hexagon mast net 1300 series with a height of 12 feet to be purchased July. John seconded the motion. All present voted yes.

Bids are needed by the May 23 Selectmen's meeting.

Picnic tables have been ordered for the park.

Maintenance at Little River Park

Baseball games will begin at Little river Park on May. Benches will be brought in, bases, drags, rakes, etc. are being provided by Oyster River Youth Association. Porta-potties will be delivered next week.

Outfield Fence: The outfield fence at the baseball field is getting installed this week. The final price for the fence was \$11,600. The center has a 12' fence with 6' fence towards the baselines. The fence is being paid for by sponsors of banners that will hang on the fence.

The first game on the field will be on May 18th. All the sponsors of the banners on the outfield fence will be invited to the game for a ceremony prior to the first pitch. One of the Lee Selectmen will throw the first pitch.

Field grass: weed control is needed. Some bids were received for treatment of weeds in the outfield. A motion was made to allow Allegro Lawn to apply the "1rst application" on the Major League baseball field and around the pavilion site at a cost of up to \$280. John seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Trails

Sylvio did some trail cleaning in the past week. Down near the river there is evidence of a camp fire. Fire on town property is not allowed.

Erosion Control: There is some erosion near the detention pond. The easement on the former Mills property is monitored by the Strafford County Conservation District. SCCD toured the site in late December and noticed the erosion. Conservation seed mix will be purchased, seeded and mulched – soon.

Historical Features at the Park

A plaque is needed at the sandbox to acknowledge that the granite blocks there are part of Lee's history and were once cattle crossings when 125 was a railroad bed.

Park Kiosk

Dawn spoke with a local carpenter about building a kiosk at the park. Design plans are available and the cost would be about \$600 and about 35 hours of labor. Dawn made a motion for approval to authorize the construction of two kiosks at the park using a design that was presented to the commission at a cost to not exceed \$600 each and coming from the trails fund. Geoff seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Men's Baseball League

There is a league who would like to use the Babe Ruth field at Little River Park. They will pay a sponsor fee and will have their own limited liability insurance fee in place. They will be there on Sundays from 9 am to 4 pm. The fee will be \$500 plus a \$350 sponsor fee and will get a banner for the outfield fence. There will be park rules in place soon and they will need to follow them.

Geoff made a motion that we allow the wooden bat league the use of the field for the above terms from June to the end of September. John seconded the motion. The motion was passed.

Frank asked that there be a posted schedule of use of the field.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm
Next meeting is June 6, 2011