

Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 23, 2017

Meeting called to order by Superintendent of Recreation at 7:39 P.M.

Attendees: Manny Enes Dan Margoshes

Kerry Stein Tina Maresca

Absent Veronica Colman Joan Spedafino

Steve Scarangella Trustee Leon Potok, Liaison

Present: Sandy Korkatzis, Recreation Superintendent

Barry Casterella, Parks General Foreman

Trustee Lou Santoro, Liaison Charles Vigliotti, Office Assistant

Previous month meeting minutes were not voted on or approved at this meeting.

Superintendent Update

Parking Booth Hours – Discussion of how long to keep the parking booth open. Should the close time be 6:00 P.M., 7:00 P.M. or 8:00 P.M. The booth is still busy at 6:00 P.M. with people coming home from work, etc. 8:00 P.M. was decided upon.

Camp Scholarship & Registration – This topic was discussed two months ago. There seems to be an issue with entitlement issues with the applicants. We made application more involved with it not based entirely on the income of the applicant. Are other factors in play, social service programs, etc. What is the percent of applicants on scholarship? The entire camp application process is now online which is much easier for the office to manage. Manny offered to sponsor a scholarship if needed.

Camp Update – Better allocation of busses producing a savings of at least \$15,000. Some of the trips were changed combining grades. All of these efforts have resulted in a big savings. Now we can accurately assess the cost per child per trip and camp overall. Camp employee discounts should be the same amount as the discount for VOM employees (50% off). This should apply to 2-3 employees at the most.

Training – Working with PERMA on training efforts for counselors. There should be various training for camp counselors. We will pull a lot of material and we will bring in speakers for training. The commitment for camp is six weeks for counselors and camp staff. Changes will occur, and there will be improvements. Discussion of online

training options. We can do this for our counselors for various training. We desire to formalize the training. Whatever the Health department wants us to do, we need to implement.

Softball Registration – The Softball registration night was a success. We are working on where to market the Over-40 league. We may try to bring back a Women's league if needed. The current marketing being utilized is being effective.

Camp (Learn to Swim Program) – The Town of Mamaroneck is not allowing the VMDC to teach swim lessons in their pool. They say that only Town employees are allowed to teach swim lessons. Should the Trustees and the Mayor become involved in this issue? The Town of Mamaroneck rents the pool from the school. This is a conflict with what we were told. The Board would support trying to allow swim lessons – this is the important thing. This should not be a problem. You will ultimately be saving a life in the long run. Discussion on the install of a pool at Harbor Island Park. The pool will eventually pay for itself. It is worth looking into. Discussion to circulate the Learn to Swim issue to the Board of Trustees. They will need the names and contact regarding the Learn to Swim issue. Finding out the source of the Town's policy is important. The official policy is needed to resolve this issue.

Food Truck/Concession Stands – We need a concession area which can be relocated in the event of a storm. Possibly something that can be leased out to chefs or restauranteurs. A fully-equipped unit would run approximately \$30,000 according to Barry. Leasing out the container for staffing would be the best way to go. They need to serve the public from both sides of a concession stand. Everyone enjoys food trucks so the Movies on the Sand series should have food trucks there. We should ask for \$60,000 from the committee. Pizza Gourmet have shown interest. Keep moving forward with this idea. Perhaps the budget Committee can help. Discussion of writing a letter to the Committee after the accurate costs have been established. There is a need to locate some seasonal vendors. Let's continue to go down that route and see what we can uncover.

Beach Improvements –The creation of a playground on the beach is a big concept. Fred Longacre is interested in working with us (Conservancy). Two tents on the beach this summer. Something in the shade for the parents would be a nice addition to the beach.

Smoke-Free Parks No one is following the no smoking policy in the parks. There should not be a ½ policy with designated smoking areas or stations. No one respects the policy. Signage is needed to explain the rules. Eleven smoking stations in a smoke-free park is a contradiction.

Crosswalk – This is a problem area. Suggestion to make the parking area by the pavilion building a seasonal parking area. We can install a speed bump to help with the speed issue. We can close off the fence or put an arm at the end of the service road and at the parking booth. Suggestions to install a barcode on the parking permit tag. Signage should be added.

Bathroom sinks – New faucets are needed to be installed with motion sensors. Changing areas also need to be addressed.

Marine Center/Naturalist Position – Creative budgeting, schools, library are discussed. Sandy recommends Kyle Troy for position. Eventually charge the schools for the classes taught by Kyle. There is a need to speak with the Trustees. The Recreation Commission could possibly write a letter. The request for additional funding should be done first.

Lockers – There is consideration for 62 lockers to be installed. This is an obvious call. They can be utilized for camp, fitness classes, storage, etc.

Parks Foreman update

Water Wheels – Waiting for the snow to melt to proceed on this. Fields to tentatively open on April 14. Have to wait to seed and fertilize due to the snow. If not opening on April 14, then push the opening to April 21. There is discussion about redoing Lanza Field.

Meeting called to a close by Manny Enes at 9:06 P.M.

Next meeting: Thursday, April 20, 2017

Minutes taken by Charles Vigliotti