

WEST BOYLSTON BOARD OF PARKS COMMISSIONERS

April 26, 2011 7:00 PM

Members Present: Steve Blake (Chairman), Pat Inderwish, Bob Monk, Richard Shaw

Members Absent: none

Guests: Chris Rucho, Michael Kane (The Banner), Jen Breen, Leon Gaumond

Public Hearing (continued from 03-21-11)

Pat recapped the input from the public hearing (03-21-11). Pat has prepared two drafts for the tennis & basketball courts rules and regulations. The first option requires permits for both residents and non-residents. The second option does not require permits for residents, but does require non-residents to have permits. Pat reviewed the changes which were made on option #1, based on the public hearing input. Jen and Leon suggested rewording #7, which addresses length of use of courts, when others are waiting for use. Richard asked how the permits would be enforced. Steve stated that resident permits would help enforce non-resident without permits. Leon Gaumond stated that he loves the work that has been done on the rules and regulations and that while the Town Clerk is willing and able to issue permits; he does not feel that it is a good use of her time. Leon has recommended option #2 and if it is found down the road that permits are needed; the board can revisit it. Chris Rucho feels that non-residents should not be given the opportunity to utilize the courts, unless with a town resident. Pat stated that permits would provide a vehicle for enforcing the rules and stated that the board could charge any amount for non-resident permits. Richard stated that he agrees with Leon's suggestion and the removal of non-resident permits. Richard questioned that October closing and the rallying addressed in #7. Pat stated that the October closing was already in existence and that rule #7 came from information gathered from other towns. Steve suggested that the time limits for the singles and doubles remain, but the rallying portion be removed. The board then reviewed and revised option #2 with changing it to indicate for use by residents and non-resident invited guests. The board discussed the number of guests to be allowed per resident. The rules include activities which are prohibited from the courts. It was discussed whether or not the specific items and activities need to be spelled out. Pat stated that it is a safety issue and if the wording is specific, it limits liability. Leon is arranging for the Town Counsel to provide additional input on what needs to be included on the signs. Pat stated that the signs need to provide specific on what is prohibited; that you know will be an issue.

The fees for the recreation programs and gazebo use were discussed. Leon explained that the Board of Selectmen policy allows use of the common at no charge. Leon is currently handling the usage reservations for the commons and gazebo. Leon would like to see a meeting between the Board of Selectmen and Parks Commission to review the policy and process. Leon feels it is best if it is left under the jurisdiction of the Parks Commission. Leon explained that the recent change was the result of a complaint he received as to use of the gazebo. His intention is to follow the policy of the Board of Selectmen. The board discussed whether the gazebo reservation fee should be removed and decided to leave it as is, until the joint meeting with the Selectmen. The wording for the recreation fees needs to be changed, to read recreation programs and fees as charged per program.

- Motion Originator: Pat Inderwish
- Motion Description: Close public hearing
- Motion Seconded: Richard Shaw
- Motion Discussion:
- Motion Approvers/Disapprovers: All Approved

- Motion Originator: Pat Inderwish
 - Motion Description: Insert option#2 as amended in place of #10&11 of current rules and regulations, amend current fee schedule (eliminate summer and insert fees as charged per program).
 - Motion Seconded: Richard Shaw
 - Motion Discussion:
 - Motion Approvers/Disapprovers: All Approved
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- Motion Originator: Pat Inderwish
 - Motion Description: All changes to the rules & regulations and fee structure are effective May 21, 2011.
 - Motion Seconded: Richard Shaw
 - Motion Discussion:
 - Motion Approvers/Disapprovers: All Approved

Minutes to Approve

- Motion Originator: Bob Monk
- Motion Description: Approve minutes March 21, 2011
- Motion Seconded: Robert Shaw
- Motion Discussion:
- Motion Approvers/Disapprovers: All Approved

Treasure's Report/Bills to Approve

Bob has made two deposits, one into the field account for \$740.00 and the other into the recreation account for \$300.00.

- Motion Originator: Pat Inderwish
 - Motion Description: Approve payment of United Site Services invoices (\$375.00 total).
 - Motion Seconded: Richard Shaw
 - Motion Discussion:
 - Motion Approvers/Disapprovers: All Approved
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- Motion Originator: Pat Inderwish
 - Motion Description: Approved reimbursement to Steve Blake (\$60.00/trash barrels).
 - Motion Seconded: Bob Monk
 - Motion Discussion:
 - Motion Approvers/Disapprovers: Approved (Steve abstained)
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- Motion Originator: Pat Inderwish
 - Motion Description: Approve payment of Utilplay invoice (\$1352.00).
 - Motion Seconded: Bob Monk
 - Motion Discussion:
 - Motion Approvers/Disapprovers: All Approved

Parks Facilities/Maintenance Items

Pat stated that there is a lot of maintenance that needs to occur and asked Leon if any funding for the part-time DPW/Parks position remains for this fiscal year. Leon stated that there probably are some funds remaining, but that the Parks Lead Person does not feel that he needs anyone and that a part-timer would detract from other work that he could be doing. The board discussed that it would be good to have someone available and that it should not take a lot of training. Pat stated that there are matters that need to be given attention and that an additional worker would help get this done. A part-timer would allow Tim to be alleviated from doing some of the easier work (such as trash collection) and certain duties could be delegated. Leon would ask the Parks Chairman to meet with the DPW Director and the Parks Lead to discuss what needs to be done and if a part-timer is needed.

Facility Requests

Jen Breen asked the board for clarification on the tennis instruction programs she has been organizing. It was her understanding that the board had approved the programs and the usage requests at the March meeting. Jen explained that the instructors have run programs in surrounding towns and that the fee includes equipment use (brought by the instructors). Jen stated where as it is a town program, it has been kept affordable and that they are willing to work with families who can not afford the \$100.00 fee. The children's session runs during one week, for four days (9:00-12:00) and the adult session is one night for five weeks (6:30-8:00). There is currently one registration for the children's program. The CORI checks have been completed and the insurance certificate received. Leon stated that the Town-wide Planning Committee's survey results showed an interest from residents for these kinds of programs. He explained that the feedback on the programs has been great and he is not concerned about making money (at this time); that the goal right now is to get the programs up and running. Leon asked that the Parks Commission grant permission for the tennis programs to be held in 2011. Richard stated that he thinks it is a good idea, but is concerned that it is a for-profit organization and questioned why the same per participant fee does not apply as with other organizations/leagues.

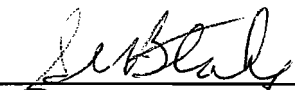

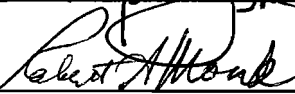
- Motion Originator: Bob Monk
 - Motion Description: To approve both tennis instruction programs
 - Motion Seconded: Richard Shaw
 - Motion Discussion:
 - Motion Approvers/Disapprovers: All Approved
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- Motion Originator: Richard Shaw
 - Motion Description: Approve Major Edward's request for use of the track and AP Field on June 3rd (8:00-2:40)
 - Motion Seconded: Pat Inderwish
 - Motion Discussion: Additional trash receptacles will be needed for the event.
 - Motion Approvers/Disapprovers: All Approved

Parks & Recreation Coordinator/Programs

Leon stated that the recreation programs which have been offered over the past several months; have been a great success. He presented the board with the question as to where to take the programs for the next year. He stated that there needs to be more structure involving the Parks Commission to assist in developing and implementing the programs and would like to see a sub-committee formed to accomplish this. Leon explained that the seed money (\$6,000.00) will not be there next year and will probably be fully expended. The plan is to change the existing summer recreation revolving account to recreation (at town meeting). He asked the board to have a discussion on how to structure and continue the programs. The board will put this on the agenda for the next meeting. Bob suggested that a public meeting be held to find people who may be interested in being on a sub-committee. Jen stated that when she and Leon met back in the fall that the goal was to have five programs up and running and that she has played an important factor in this getting done. Jen is willing to continue her efforts and would like to have some say as to how it happens and is fearful if too many people get involved in running the programs. Pat stated that the board needs to go back to the shared resource meeting and that they do not want to lose sight of that. Leon stated that five years from now he does not see Boylston/West Boylston programs, but sees drawing from a much larger pool. Cost savings can be done to offer to larger audiences. Pat stated that the youth sports associations have been resource sharing, with great success. Richard stated that a successful program requires a leader, who needs to be compensated. Leon agreed that volunteerism can not carry the recreation programs across the line and believes that the programs can be sustainable, even if paying a staff.

Next Meeting: Changed to May 23, 2011 7:00 PM

- Motion Originator: Bob Monk
- Motion Description: To adjourn (9:15 PM)
- Motion Seconded: Richard Shaw
- Motion Discussion:
- Motion Approvers/Disapprovers: All Approved

DATE: 07-25-11