

Parks and Recreation  
Monday July 20th, 2020  
Zoom Meeting

Present: Bob O'Shea, Michelle Lauria, Daren Magan, Doug Thornton, Steve Victorson

Minutes Approval - June 15th minutes approved.

Welcome to Kara Minar - Out of town

## **Program Updates**

### **Beach Operations**

**Sticker/Parking Report** - Issues with parking at the beach. How to slow the cars down and accommodate individuals who fish and are handicapped and the occasional unfriendly interactions with people parking in spots that are not marked. Should we add more signage? Discussed making more explicit signs that would say something like no parking or parking between signs.

Bob, we need more room for parking, perhaps we need to remove trees to widen the road. We cannot take away parking for trailers. Discussed signs around the boat launch that better state the rules.

Personal water craft refers to wave runners, jet skis, any device that would power a personal device.

Bob - Should we have a public hearing on whether or not to close the gate going to the pond when the beach closes and then allow early people who want to fish the ability to use the Kiosk to get a key for the gate.

**Boat Rental Kiosk Report to CPC** - There have been requests for additional paddle boards. Overall going very well.

Michelle - Updated beach staffing. Things are going well overall. What do we want for beach goals? Do we change how lessons are planned? Young kids in the morning, older kids in the afternoon? Life guards 10-5 or do we extend the guards to 7? Or just hot days later? More boats, etc. Darren suggested that this year is an anomaly due to the covid. He noted that the more we add to the beach, the more responsibility and the more potential outside interest. Steve suggested focusing on better sand, maybe beach umbrellas. Bob, if we focus on extending beach operations, we will need more money. Discussed how to better utilize staffing. We need to figure out how to collect more money so that we can build a small fund to do larger projects and stay ahead.

**BHRA Agreement action** - Bob discussed having BHRA agreement rewritten with the Parks and Recreation as the overseer.

**Bob will take the action of marking up the new agreement and collaborating with Michelle.**

### **Budget Analysis**

## Fields and Commons

Discussed the stage 3 status of reopening. Baseball can play games. Soccer cannot play games. Discussed how to make sure this information is understood by all sports teams. Tim K. Asked if we can make a sign that says no golfers? Michelle asked do we need signs? Michelle asked whether or not we could just have a sign that says all users must follow the state rules. Darren did not issue a permit for soccer as the state has not yet said that soccer could be played.

### **Field Maintenance Plan**

Darren - Discussing the agreed upon maintenance plan. Discussed specifics such as clearing grass clippings. This new document was agreed upon by both Tim and Tim. This will be posted on the website and will continued to be refined.

**Field Sub-Committee progress** - Dan Daly: We will try to wind down between now and the Fall meeting then focus specifically on the total number of fields that we need. Talked to field people and found that on average a field should be used no more than 30 hours per week. Talked about open space committee and looking at how to view future parcels and the potential for recreational activity. Active rec. and athletic fields are now part of the committee and the Field Sub-Committee now has a 5 point plan to assess if properties could be used for recreation and athletics.

**Budget Analysis** - Discussed field irrigation electrical costs and porta-potties and future costs for work. Discussed allocating budget money to fields based on cost of operating. Steve and Darren felt this was a good approach for allocating money. We need 45,586.00k and only have 25,650.00k. We need to collect this difference in fees(22,644.00). Doug commented on how this fund also took care of non-field needs and that costs might not always align with actual field repair requirements. Bob pointed to money that we already gave DPW and that money should be enough to cover 3 people. Bob suggested that we not go to the town for more money for DPW. Bob questioned the 50/50 split. Darren commented on places in the proposed budget. Doug noted that we to start taking care of lining the soccer fields should we go to the next stage of phase 3.

**Darren will contact Nathaniel and Tim regarding lining the fields.**

## Public communications

Mary Runniger - Discussed her reasoning behind not supporting the citizens petition and noted that it wasn't that she was against our committee. Also, wanted to thank the commission for taking up the plan for more control of the fields. She is appreciative of what we are doing and looking forward to working with the committee in the future.

Donna Lee - Had a question on chat regarding parking at the beach. Bob clarified that we are charging for the parking and not the beach. We need to separate out non-residents. Parking at the beach is a privilege.

Bob answered that basically we are doing what we can within the rules dictated by the state and the board of health regarding COVID.

## **Budget Updates**

Bob asked as to whether or not we ended up spending most of the money that we had to spend. Doug answered yes.  
Doug will send out a budget sheet.

Michelle motioned to accept our prioritization process as discussed and use the civic rec. form as shown. Passed 4-0. Darren left the meeting early.

Doug will take over the process of making sure the signs are being placed for the rules.

Harvard Soccer asked for a confirmation on closing the front half of Depot for the Fall. That was confirmed.

Steve motioned to adjourn. Michelle seconded. Meeting to adjourn at 2138

## **Attachments**

Beach Signs PDF  
Boat Kiosk  
Beach Budget  
Field Maintenance Plan  
Park&Field Budget