

**PARKS COMMISSIONERS**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**MASON LIBRARY**  
**COMMUNITY ROOM**  
**231 MAIN STREET**  
**GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230**  
**DECEMBER 10, 2018**  
**5:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT:**

**KAREN SMITH, CHAIR**

**PAUL GIBBONS – VICE CHAIR**

**THOMAS NORTON**

**PATRICIA SALVI**

**ILANA SIEGAL**

**STEPHEN BANNON - ABSENT**

**CHARLES BOUTEILLER**

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Minutes of October 9, 2018

**MOTION:** Paul Gibbons to approve.

**SECOND:** Pat Salvi

**VOTE:** 5-0

Karen advised that Mr. Wiltshire resigned due to lack of attendance. She noted that she posted on her personal web page that there are two vacancies on the Parks and Recreation Committee and to contact Helen Kuziemko in the Select Board's office if interested.

2. **PARKS USAGE REQUEST:**

A. Festival Latino of the Berkshires to use the Town Hall Park on September 28, 2019 to celebrate Hispanic heritage. Liliana Ortiz-Beimudez was present to explain the request. The request was from noon to 6:00 p.m. (The hours were changed from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for set-up and clean up). She advised that they will present a Certificate of Insurance prior to the event. They are planning on hiring two police officers. The Commissioners informed her that the food vendors need to apply to the Board of Health for food permits. Ms. Ortiz-Beimudez will return to the Parks and Recreation in June when all permits, etc. are obtained. Also the schedule for the Band Concerts should be confirmed by then.

**MOTION:** Tom Norton to approve.

**SECOND:** Pat Salvi

**VOTE:** 6-0

3. **PARKS CARE AND MAINTENANCE:**

A. **Updates from Sean VanDeusen, DPW Superintendent** – Construction of the Little League Field will be finished in the spring. Sean said he met with Little League and they are on notice as to how to maintain the field. There will be standard operating information available on the wall. The Minor League field will be done at the end of the season next year. The parks got cleaned and leaf blown. The lake has been taken care of.

**Giggle Park** – looks like the swing and slide will fit. The Mahaiwe Theater, Fairview Hospital and BIFF were distressed about the expansion. There was a meeting with Mahaiwe Tent, etc. to discuss this. There will be a meeting with the Tree Warden to talk about taking down some trees. Construction will start in the spring.

**Memorial Field** – Next spring the temporary access road will be put in and will impact the fence. They will be taking the little building out and put an additional building in. They are looking at two years before coming back to do the final repairs. They will return with a plan for the temporary access road.

B. **Railroad Street Youth Project** – Chris from Railroad Street presented their Skate Park Review for 2018 noting visits and programs hosted at the skate park. (This is attached to these minutes). It was noted that some of the equipment needs to be replaced. There will be money for repairs at Memorial Field after the final figures are in for Giggle Park. Sean said he would discuss this with Railroad Street. Chris noted he would give the specific numbers for the skate park camps. There were between 5-12 kids per day for the skate camps. He noted that they are willing to staff the park for ice skating but they do not have the ability to build the rink. Sean noted he would check on vendors.

4. **OLD BUSINESS:**

A. **5 Year Capital Plan/Discussion of operating budget** – Sean reviewed the capital plan for next year that is proposed. (A copy is attached to these minutes).  
Baseball/Softball field Repairs – the bulk of that is for the softball field and the rest of the money will be put towards clay for Memorial Field.  
(Skate Parks Repairs and Equipment) \$8,500 is to address some of the ramps that are there.  
(Dewey Park/Study Design) - \$10,000 – This is for an architect to help with the plan and to have aid during construction. We want to make sure we have ADA Accessible equipment there. The swings need to have high backs and be able to strap the person in. There is proposed \$10,000 for Parks Equipment Repair and Replacement/ADA Equipment. Fence Repairs/install – Sean said we have \$30,000 in needs but he is asking for \$9,000 for next year.

**MOTION:** Paul Gibbons to approve the proposal as presented.

**SECOND:** Charlie Bouteiller

**VOTE:** 6-0

5. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. **Dewey Park – Nick Diller** – Sean and he measured to see how long the fence would be. The way it lines up, we have two trees in the front by the sidewalk. We want the fence between the two trees. One lines up with the edge of the building and the other lines up with the yellow house on the hill. It is approximately 90'. We want lawn mower width from the tree to the fence. The fence could be 4' high. Karen noted that she needs to see a plan. Nick said they would like a border along Gilmore. It was noted to return April of 2019 with resources of what the neighborhood would like. We will take the information and incorporate it into a design.

6. **CITIZEN SPEAK:**

Chris Rembold said the town is due to update its open space and recreation plan. The plan has a five year life span. In order to get certain open space and recreation grants we need to have a plan in place. We have begun the process that consists of updating our basic demographic data for the town. We are looking at all of our parks and doing a long term plan and aligning all our open space and recreation resources. In January, we will discuss the open space and recreation plan. (Put on the January agenda – Open Space and Recreation Plan – Chris Rembold).

David Magadini asked the Commissioners permission to place a storage container at the Town Hall Park to put his cart in. After discussion, the following motion was made.

**MOTION:** Ilana Siegal to deny placing a storage unit on the Town Hall Property.

**SECOND:** Pat Salvi

**VOTE:** 6-0 – to deny

7. **COMMISSIONERS SPEAK:**

Ilana noted that the Lake Mansfield Alliance would be interested in paying to update the rules board at Lake Mansfield. The Commissioners noted that the Alliance should return with a draft of the final product. They should also include Berkshire South and Railroad Street in the finished product. This can go on a future agenda. Ilana asked why the Parks Commissioners jurisdiction is not under the Housy Dome. It is currently under the Town Manager's jurisdiction. There was a separate committee that was set up to take care of it originally.

8. **NEXT MEETING:**

January 14, 2019 – Mason Library – 5:00 p.m.

9: **ADJOURNMENT:**

On a motion made by Paul Gibbons and seconded by Ilana Siegal, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Wichmann  
Secretary