MEETING MINUTES PARKS COMMISSIONERS

GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230 MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2020

4:30 P.M.

This meeting was conducted via Zoom.

PRESENT:

KAREN SMITH, CHAIR

PAUL GIBBONS, VICE CHAIR

STEPHEN BANNON THOMAS NORTON ILANA SIEGAL WILLIAM MEIER

CHARLES BOUTEILLER

PATRICIA SALVI

LIZ HIRSH

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of March 9, 2020

MOTION: Stephen Bannon to approve as written. Thomas Norton

SECOND: VOTE:

Roll call vote:

Karen Smith Yes Paul Gibbons Yes Stephen Bannon Yes Thomas Norton Yes Ilana Siegal Yes William Meier Yes Charles Bouteiler Yes Patricia Salvi Yes Liz Hirsh Yes 9-0

MOTION CARRIED

3. PARKS USAGE REQUESTS:

A. Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center (Amy Rudnick) to use the Town Hall green on Saturday, August 1, 2020 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for the annual gala. The tent set up with be Friday, July 31 and taken down on Monday, August 3. 2020. (Discussion/Vote)

The dates were reserved from the March 9th meeting but the event wasn't approved.

MOTION: Paul Gibbons to approve on a provisional manner subject to what happens in the course of gathering requirements and if restrictions have been lifted.

SECOND: William Meier
VOTE: Roll call vote:
Karen Smith

Yes Paul Gibbons No Stephen Bannon Yes Thomas Norton Yes Ilana Siegal Yes William Meier Yes Charles Bouteiler Yes Patricia Salvi Yes Liz Hirsh Yes

MOTION CARRIED

8-0-1

B. <u>Fairview Hospital</u> (Amy Rudnick) to use the Town Hall green on Saturday, August 29, 2020 from 5:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. for the Annual Gala. The tent set up will be Friday, August 28, 2020 and removed Monday, August 31, 2020. (Discussion/Vote)

The dates were reserved from the March 9th meeting but the event wasn't approved.

MOTION: Stephen Bannon to approve on a provisional manner subject to what happens in the course of gathering requirements and if restrictions have been lifted

SECO	ND: Liz Hirshier	
VOTE	Roll call vote	:
	Karen Smith	Yes
	Paul Gibbons	No
	Stephen Bannon	Yes
	Thomas Norton	Yes
	Ilana Siegal	Yes
	William Meier	Yes
	Charles Bouteiler	Yes
	Patricia Salvi	Yes
	Liz Hirsh	Yes
MOTION CARRIED		8-0-1

- C. 18 Degrees Family Services for Western Massachusetts to use the Town Hall Park either Monday July 27, 2020 or on July 20, 2020 (alternate date) for an Annual Gala for kids 4 Harmony reception. A tent will be put up the Friday prior to the Monday event and taken down on the Tuesday after the event. (Discussion/Vote) They withdrew their request.
- D. <u>Great Barrington Land Conservancy/Lake Mansfield Alliance</u> to use the Lake Mansfield Beach Area greenspace on Sunday, May 3, 2020- for Lake Mansfield cleanup and celebration day. <u>They</u> withdrew their request.
- E. <u>Great Barrington Land Conservancy/Lake Mansfield Alliance</u> to use the Lake Mansfield Beach Area greenspace to provide yoga from June 29th August 28th (Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. (Discussion/Vote)

MOTION: Stephen Bannon to approve upon the lake being opened by the governor.

SECOND: Ilana Siegal

VOTE: Roll call vote:
Karen Smith Yes

Paul Gibbons Yes Stephen Bannon Yes Thomas Norton Yes Ilana Siegal Yes William Meier Yes Charles Bouteiler Yes Patricia Salvi Yes Liz Hirsh Yes

MOTION CARRIED 9-0

F. Great Barrington Millers to use Memorial Field when the parks are open through October 15th Sundays 8:30 to 3:00 p.m. When the parks are open through October 15. Thursday 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 pm through September 1. (Discussion/Vote) Tom Ingersoll was present via zoom. The schedule will be limited to 4 teams of 20 years of age and over. The first game is scheduled for the first weekend in May. It doesn't mean there will be a game at Memorial Field. We historically go through August. He would like to have Thursday evenings from 5:00 p.m. to dusk and Sundays from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to allow for a double header if we are to have one. ¾ of the time we will not be there on Sundays. Sean VanDeusen noted that construction on the field will be done in October by the coop. Tom noted they will be done by Labor Day.

MOTION:

Stephen Bannon to approve contingent upon the town or the state allowing the

parks to open.

SECOND: VOTE: Liz Hirsh Roll call vote:

Karen Smith Yes Paul Gibbons Yes Stephen Bannon Yes Thomas Norton Yes Ilana Siegal Yes William Meier Yes Charles Bouteiler Yes Patricia Salvi Yes

MOTION CARRIED

9-0

4. PARKS CARE AND MAINTENANCE:

Liz Hirsh

A. <u>Memorial Field Update</u>

B. <u>Updates from Sean VanDeusen, DPW Superintendent</u> – Swings have been taken down at the parks or in a manner where they can't be touched. Caution tape has been around everything. All parks are closed in terms of equipment.

Yes

MOTION:

Stephen Bannon that all parks be closed by the Parks Department in such time either the governor

or Parks Department reopens them.

SECOND:

William Meier

VOTE:

No vote was taken

Lana and Liz noted that closing the parks needs more clarifying. Karen noted that there will be a press release that will go out to the media outlets and on the Facebook page. It was noted that people are not honoring not using the equipment. The Olympian Meadows will be locked and no vehicles will be allowed to park. Mark Pruhenski read aloud the closure notice that will be put on line. After discussion, Karen noted that verbiage in the release should state that the equipment is taped off, there should be no gatherings of more than 10 people and use social distancing. Karen and Mark will rewrite the press release and send it out to everyone. As soon as it is dry, the construction at Giggle Park will finish up.

Sean noted that the sign companies are considered nonessential so it might take a while to obtain new signs. In the meantime, paper signs will be used.

The Gaga field location was discussed and after discussion the following motion was made.

MOTION: Ilana Siegal to put the Gaga Field at South Street Park.

SECOND: Paul Gibbons

YOTE: Roll call vote:

Karen Smith Yes Paul Gibbons Yes Stephen Bannon Yes Thomas Norton Yes Ilana Siegal Yes William Meier Yes Charles Bouteiler Yes Patricia Salvi Yes Liz Hirsh Yes

MOTION CARRIED

9-0

4. PARKS CARE AND MAINTENANCE:

5. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Housatonic Community Center and Gazebo under parks jurisdiction The Housatonic Community Center is now under the jurisdiction of Parks and Recreation. Mark said he would reach out to the regulars and advise them to contact Parks and Recreation for using the center.
- B. <u>Tighe & Bond Park Inventory, Needs Assessment, and Mapping</u> Nothing new per Sean.

6. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. <u>Berkshire South</u> Jenise Lucy was present to speak on behalf of Berkshire South. She noted it is difficult to hire lifeguards now. She noted she would like to have certified lifeguard training in May preliminarily. There needs to be a clear message about the lake that if you do use the lake, you are swimming at your own risk and there are no lifeguards for now. There is funding left through June 30th.
- B. <u>Railroad Street Youth Project.</u> Ananda could not make contact with the Zoom. Karen said Ananda may have funding to have a staff person at the Skate Park to make sure things are safe. Karen noted she would try to contact her.
 - C. <u>Policies and Procedures re: COVID 19 situation</u> already discussed earlier.
- 7. <u>CITIZENS SPEAK:</u> Chair will recognize individuals at this time who wish to speak Mrs. Mooney noted that all votes in remote meetings must be a roll call vote
- 8. <u>COMMISSIONERS SPEAK:</u> Tom Norton said that Housatonic the Beautiful is scheduled to take place in two weeks, ending Saturday the 25th This will be kept to the distancing guidelines. He noted he would like some garbage bags. It was noted he can pick them up outside the Ramsdell Library. Sean said the DPW will pick up the bags the following Monday.

9. **NEXT MEETING**

Next Meeting is Monday, May 11, 2020 - TBA

10. **ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION:	Paul Gibbons	Paul Gibbons to adjourn.	
SECOND:		Stephen Bannon	
VOTE:	Roll call vote	<u>::</u>	
Karen Smith		Yes	
Paul Gibbons		Yes	
Stephen Bannon		Yes	
Thomas Norton		Yes	
Ilana Siegal		Yes	
William Meier		Yes	
Charl	es Bouteiler	Yes	
Patric	cia Salvi	Yes	
Liz H	irsh	Yes	
MOTION CARRIED		9-0	

Wichmann

Respectfully submitted, Carolyn Wichmann

Recording Secretary