

**PARKS COMMISSIONERS**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**MASON LIBRARY**  
**COMMUNITY ROOM**  
**231 MAIN STREET**  
**GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230**  
**APRIL 8, 2019**  
**5:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT:**

**KAREN SMITH, CHAIR**

**PAUL GIBBONS – VICE CHAIR**

**THOMAS NORTON**

**PATRICIA SALVI**

**ILANA SIEGAL – Left at 5:45 p.m.**

**STEPHEN BANNON- Left at 6:00 p.m.**

**CHARLES BOUTEILLER**

**LIZ HIRSH – Left at 6:20 p.m.**

**WILLIAM MEIER**

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Minutes of March 11, 2019

**MOTION:** Paul Gibbons to approve.

**SECOND:** Stephen Bannon

**VOTE:** 9-0

2. **PARKS USAGE REQUESTS:**

A. Great Barrington Millers to use Memorial Field from April 1 through October 31, 2019, Sundays 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (discussion/vote) Tom Ingersoll, representing the Millers, was present. Trash receptacles will be put at Memorial Field. We need to check with Sean on the recycle bins. The first base dugout will not be repaired, but a tent will be put up. The Millers would like Power House Associates to put the screening up for the dugout on May 5, 2019. Tom also noted that the Millers will be working on the field on May 5, 2019. The Millers will be providing new bases.

**MOTION:** Paul Gibbons to approve.

**SECOND:** Stephen Bannon

**VOTE:** 9-0

B. Lee Rogers to use the Bandstand behind Town Hall for summer concerts from June 14, 2019 through September 15, 2019, Fridays – 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Also David Grover concerts on Saturday's from 9:00 a.m. to noon – July and August. (Discussion/vote) Lee noted that they have some additional performers and might ask for Wednesdays. Lee was advised if there are changes just to return and let us know. He said if anyone gets rained out he just reschedules them for another day. Lee noted he would like to use Saturday evening as a rain date.

**MOTION:** Stephen Bannon to approve.

**SECOND:** Pat Salvi

**VOTE:** 9-0

C. Railroad Street Youth Project, 60 Bridge Street to use Memorial Field on Saturday, May 18, 2019 from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Discussion/Vote) Ananda Timpane was present to explain the request. She noted this is the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Railroad Street. The request is to use the field and the skate park. The event is free of charge. The initial proposal is to have food trucks on Memorial Field as long as it isn't wet. The other part of the field will be for ultimate Frisbee that is being coordinated by Monument Mountain Regional High School. She said if the field is wet, they would turn the parking lot into the food vendor area. We need specific approval from Parks to have trucks on town property. There will be a tent for entertainment and it will be on the black top area. Ananda noted they are going to ask permission to use the lot across the street at the old Searles School for parking.

**MOTION:** Stephen Bannon to approve.

**SECOND:** Pat Salvi

**VOTE:** 9-0

3. **PARKS CARE AND MAINTENANCE:**

A. Updates from Sean VanDeusen, DPW Superintendent – Sean was unable to attend the meeting. His updates were e-mailed to Karen.

The final load of infield clay was delivered to the Little League Field and Ingersoll will be finishing up there in a few weeks.

Staff has begun to clean the Parks.

Sand will be added to Lake Mansfield beach area in a few weeks.

Handicapped Swings are scheduled for delivery and will be installed at Dewey Park, Grove Street and Olympian Meadows.

There will be a meeting next week of the Lake Mansfield Task Force and they will go over the proposal to repair Lake Mansfield Road.

B. Memorial Field Maintenance:

Robert Redpath, coach of one of the Babe Ruth teams was present and asked what steps need to be done to improve the field. Mr. Redpath was advised to discuss this with Mr. Ingersoll and Mr. VanDeusen.

Sean McTeigue, with Railroad Street Youth Project. He noted he was the skate park coordinator last year. They are going to put skate lite on some of the wooden pieces. There is no back drain and there are cracks in the skate bowl. There will be a class on sun protection safety and they would like to get some umbrellas for shade. Stephen said we need to ask Sean VanDeusen to get us a price to fix the bowl correctly. Sean McTeigue will contact the DPW Superintendent and they will get together and walk the area to get an idea of costs.

C. Dewey Park

This was tabled – the commissioners need a report from the Dewey Park neighborhood group.

D. 5 Year Capital Plan/Discussion of Operating Budget

No updates until after Town Meeting

4. **OLD BUSINESS:**

None

5. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. **Berkshire South**

Steven Leonard presented a Parks Activity Proposal for the outreach activity to be planned for the summer of 2019 for Lake Mansfield and the Housatonic Playground. He noted Lake Mansfield's coordinator is returning. The Housatonic Coordinator moved on so they are looking for a replacement. It was suggested to contact the Lake Mansfield Task Force and Lake Mansfield Alliance as they have talked about doing similar activities. They may be able to put money towards special events. Steve presented costs for the special activates that amounted to approximately \$1,500.00. It was noted that Memorial Day weekend isn't good as people go away. Steven said they could look at other dates. William Meier said for showing movies, there is a licensing fee to show movies for public viewing. Ananda said that the contract budget is based on what was created before outreach proposals. The way the RFP is set up, it shows a per hour rate based on the whole cost of everything planned for but doesn't necessarily include outreach programs. Bill suggested that if movie nights are done, extra staff will have to be available especially at the lake to keep people from swimming in the lake at night. A movie could be shown on the wall of the Housatonic School. You can charge people or get support from local businesses. Ananda said if there is a group of kids between 14 and 25, they could go before the Youth Operational Board to ask about covering the fee.

B. **Railroad Street Youth Project**

Already discussed Parks Usage Request.

C. **Temporary Placard** – Karen presented a draft of the Great Barrington Olympian Meadows Temporary Placard Proposal. This would allow a local business to apply for a temporary placard to generate income for Little League which would help with the cost of renovations and upkeep of the baseball fields. The placards would be 3.5' x 8', or 2' x 6'. There is room enough for 66 placards. The cost will be \$250.00 a season. The temporary placard season will begin April 27<sup>th</sup> through October 10, 2019. Little League will review the content of the placards before they are put up. They will be put up by a professional. There won't be political advertising or religious messages. Funding was secured for a new score board sign. There will be placard under the score board noting the business that donated the money for the scoreboard. Eric Kreis was present in regard to the placards.

**MOTION:** Pat Salvi made a motion to approve as written.

**SECOND:** Stephen Bannon

**VOTE:** 8-0-1 – Paul Gibbons - abstained

D. **Automated External Defibrillator**

One External defibrillator is planned to be put at Lake Mansfield because it can be put away at the end of the day. The cost of a defibrillator is \$1,800. Fairview Hospital agreed to donate up to \$1,000 towards the purchase of one. Pat Salvi noted that Sheffield Kiwanis may be able to donate \$800.00 towards the rest of the cost.

**MOTION:** Karen to work with Pat Salvi on the wording of an e-mail to Sheffield Kiwanis regard to donating the remainder of the cost of the defibrillator (\$800.00).

**SECOND:** Paul Gibbons

**VOTE:** 7-0

E. Trolley Project

Don Howe of the Historical Commission and Paul Ivory were present to explain their request for support of Parks and Recreation for the Historical Commission to renovate the Trolley Shelter at Weir Park (Belcher Square). Don noted that the Historical Commission paid \$3,000 to have an engineering report done. To renovate it, the cost would be about \$50,000. Sean advised them that he would try to obtain engineering drawings and funding. Ingersoll has agreed to do some tree trimming on Arbor Day.

**MOTION:** Karen to support the Historical Commission on behalf of the renovation of the Trolley Shelter at Weir Park.

**SECOND:** Pat Salvi

**VOTE:** 7-0

F. Meeting Date Changes - The meetings for October and November needed to be changed as the meeting dates fall on holidays. The October meeting was changed to October 15<sup>th</sup>. The November meeting was changed to the 12<sup>th</sup>.

6. **CITIZEN'S SPEAK:**

7. **COMMISSIONERS SPEAK:**

8. **NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting of Parks will be May 13, 2019 – Mason Library

9. **ADJOURNEMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Wichmann  
Recording Secretary