

MINUTES
PARKS COMMISSIONERS (VIA ZOOM)
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2022
5:15 P.M.

PRESENT:

KAREN SMITH, CHAIR

PAUL GIBBONS

STEPHEN BANNON

JULIE ANDIJAR

TERRANCE CHAMBERLAND

WILLIAM MEIER - ON ZOOM

THOMAS NORTON - ON ZOOM

NOT PRESENT:

ILANA SIEGAL

SRIDEVI REDDY

1, CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of August 15, 2022 (Discussion/Roll Call Vote).

MOTION: Paul Gibbons to approve as written

SECOND: Stephen Bannon

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u>	Paul Gibbons	Yes
	Stephen Bannon	Yes
	Julie Andijar	Yes
	Terry Chamberland	Yes
	Bill Meier	Yes
	Tom Norton	Yes
	Karen Smith	Yes

MOTION PASSED **7-0**

3. PARKS USAGE REQUESTS:

A. Railroad Street Youth Project to use the Housatonic Community Center beginning September 27, 2022 through June 21 (Tuesdays and Wednesdays) from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. for group mentoring. (Discussion/Roll Call Vote)

MOTION: Paul Gibbons to approve

SECOND: Terry Chamberland

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u>	Paul Gibbons	Yes
	Stephen Bannon	Yes
	Julie Andijar	Yes
	Terry Chamberland	Yes
	Bill Meier	Yes
	Tom Norton	Yes
	Karen Smith	Yes

MOTION PASSED **7-0**

B. **Town of Great Barrington. Housatonic Improvement Committee** Angela Lomanto to use the Alice Brubiski Playground at the Housatonic Village Commons for a community picnic/gathering on October 1, 2022 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. **(Discussion/Roll Call Vote)**

MOTION: Paul Gibbons to approve

SECOND: Terry Chamberland

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u>	Paul Gibbons	Yes
	Stephen Bannon	Yes
	Julie Andijar	Yes
	Terry Chamberland	Yes
	Bill Meier	Yes
	Tom Norton	Yes
	Karen Smith	Yes

MOTION PASSED 7-0

C. **Susan Jameson** for permission to hang hexagon color photos on the fence surrounding the swing set behind Town Hall in conjunction with Indigenous Peoples Day, October 10, 2022. **(Discussion/Vote)** it was noted the photos will be hung on the 7th and removed after the event on the 10th. (The Alliance for a Viable Future was already approved to use Memorial Field from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.) Susan said they would also like to have a small fire pan while at Memorial Field to do Native American prayers. She was asked to notify the fire chief.

MOTION: Paul Gibbons to approve

SECOND: Terry Chamberland

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u>	Paul Gibbons	Yes
	Stephen Bannon	Yes
	Julie Andijar	Yes
	Terry Chamberland	Yes
	Bill Meier	Yes
	Tom Norton	Yes
	Karen Smith	Yes

MOTION PASSED 7-0

D. **Housatonic Youth Basketball** Matt Chamberland to use the Housatonic Community Center from November 1, 2022 through March 15, 2023 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Wednesday and Friday and weekends from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. except when Berkshire Grown is there.

MOTION: Paul Gibbons to approve pending liability insurance renewal.

SECOND: Tom Norton

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u>	Paul Gibbons	Yes
	Stephen Bannon	Yes
	Julie Andijar	Yes
	Terry Chamberland	Yes
	Bill Meier	Yes
	Tom Norton	Yes
	Karen Smith	Yes

MOTION PASSED 7-0

E. **Berkshire Pulse** to use the Housatonic Park from 5:45 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. on Wednesday, October 5, 2022 for free African Dance Workshop with live drumming for ages 13+.

MOTION: Stephen Bannon to approve the use of the park. If it is raining, they are approved to use the Housatonic Community Center.

SECOND: Terry Chamberland

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u>	Paul Gibbons	Yes
	Stephen Bannon	Yes
	Julie Andijar	Yes
	Terry Chamberland	Yes
	Bill Meier	Yes
	Tom Norton	Yes
	Karen Smith	Yes

MOTION PASSED 7-0

F. **Ruby Aver** to use the Housatonic Community Center for adult Tai Chi Tuesday and Thursday from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

MOTION: Terry Chamberland to approve.

SECOND: Julie Andijar

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u>	Paul Gibbons	Yes
	Stephen Bannon	Yes
	Julie Andijar	Yes
	Terry Chamberland	Yes
	Bill Meier	Yes
	Tom Norton	Yes
	Karen Smith	Yes

MOTION PASSED 7-0

G. **Great Barrington Board of Health/Southern Berkshire Public Health Collaborative** to use the Housatonic Community Center on Thursday, November 10, 2022 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. for a public flu and covid booster clinic.

MOTION: Terry Chamberland to approve.

SECOND: Stephen Bannon

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u>	Paul Gibbons	Yes
	Stephen Bannon	Yes
	Julie Andijar	Yes
	Terry Chamberland	Yes
	Bill Meier	Yes
	Tom Norton	Yes
	Karen Smith	Yes

MOTION PASSED 7-0

4. **PARKS CARE AND MAINTENANCE**

A. **Memorial Field update** - The engineers are working on it. We are expecting a draft plan this fall. It will go out to bid this winter for spring construction.

B. **Tighe and Bond - design of Grove Street Park and Dewey Park** - Karen said she would like the survey put on the website. Julie said she would send Joe Aberdale the ping pong information and costs. We can have a dedicated meeting to review the survey and fees to use the Housatonic community center.

C. **Parking on Grove Street-** Karen asked if we can get a schematic of the parking.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Budget Update** -We will discuss the survey first and then go over the budget.

B. **Raine Armory/RSVP** -for installation of keen ramps mini ramp at Memorial Field Skate Park.
Karen told them that they are not doing anything until the plan has been submitted to Joe Aberdale.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

A. **Berkshire South** - No one was present.

B. **Railroad Street Youth Project** - no end of season report now because the season is still going on.
They have shifted to the fall hours which is after school every day and weekends 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

C. **Charging for town spaces** -Will set up a separate meeting to discuss this.

D. **Lake Mansfield Task Force - Bill Meier** - during a meeting it was noted that the weed situation in the lake has been good. The lifeguards have been using their phones while on duty. People are still swimming across the lake. The park is getting a lot of use. There is conversation about leveling the ground there when the new park equipment does in. It should be installed in October. We are waiting for a part to come in. The metal climber will be removed. If Senta Reis noted she may have to move her Yoga location if construction is going on.

E. **Michael Peretti/Tom Norton** - planting trees at the Alice Bubriski Playground - Housatonic Village Commons- Quote - Tom Ingersoll forwarded an estimated cost of \$11,500 to plant nine trees of 2.2.5 calipers. Joe noted that we can get the cost under \$10,000,

MOTION: Julie to approve.

SECOND: Tom Norton

MOTION: Steve to spend no more than \$12,000 for the trees and labor.

SECOND: Tom Norton

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u>	Paul Gibbons	Yes
	Stephen Bannon	Yes
	Julie Andijar	Yes
	Terry Chamberland	Yes
	Bill Meier	Yes
	Tom Norton	Yes
	Karen Smith	Yes

MOTION PASSED **7-0**

It was noted that the trees need regular watering after being planted.

F. **Police presence at Lake Mansfield and Memorial Field-** Tabled

G. **Lake Mansfield Beach Area** - Metal climber/new equipment - Tabled

H. **Status of Fields at Olympian Meadows/no compliance** - Karen said she sent a copy of the letter to Little League along with a copy of the contract that they signed this spring. Trish Storti got in touch with the committee but nothing has been done. A slide show was presented to show the condition of the fields. The minor league on June 6, July 2, and Sept. 10. The town spent \$10,000 getting the field ready and it hasn't been maintained. They haven't weeded or picked anything up. The softball field needs some help. The major league field on 7/2 and 9/10 has not been maintained. The garbage can is full and there is stuff all over the place. The porta potties are still there.

The shed isn't even locked. A paddle lock needs to be put on the shed. The minor league field needs to be totally repurposed They want to put a memor ial to Charlie Plungis on that field? Chip Paul and his family took care of Memorial Field.

Karen said she would like a motion that the minor league field is no longer available to the little league. But we still expect the major league field to be taken care of.

MOTION: Paul Gibbons that the commission send a letter by certified mail to the principals of the Little League organization stating that the minor league field is no longer available for use. We expect the major league field and surround ing area will be maintained and cleaned up before winter in accordance with the agreement.

SECOND: Tom Norton

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE</u>	Paul Gibbons	Yes
	Stephen Bannon	Yes
	Julie Andijar	Yes
	Terry Chamberland	Yes
	Bill Meier	Yes
	Tom Norton	Yes
	Karen Smith	Yes

MOTION PASSED 7-0

Karen noted she would write the letter.

CITIZEN ' S SPEAK TIME:

Eric Gabrielle agreed with the idea of a soccer field including Frisbee golf in the park.

The date of the next regular meeting is October 17, 2022.

It was decided to have a fees and survey meeting on Tuesday, October 11, 2022 at 5:15 p.m. Tom was asked to give Karen some information on the survey and fees.

COMMISSIONERS SPEAK

Julie said that Olympian Meadows is a good location for a soccer field.

Tom said he was at the Housatonic Park and someone has provided a basket on the basketball court with toys and equipment. There were basketballs, soccer balls, badminton stuff, etc.

Karen thanked the committee and Carmen for getting the slide show done, Mark for helping and Paul for staying on with Olympian Meadows and Joe Aberdale for being so responsive. She thanked Julie for everything and Tom for the tree information.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m. by a unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Wichmann
Recording Clerk