

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

PRESENT:

KAREN SMITH, CHAIR

PAUL GIBBONS – VICE CHAIR

THOMAS NORTON

PATRICIA SALVI

ILANA SIEGAL

STEPHEN BANNON- Left @ 5:30 p.m.

CHARLES BOUTEILLER- Not Present

LIZ HIRSCH

WILLIAM MEIER- Not Present

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Minutes of June 10, 2019

MOTION: Stephen Bannon to approve.

SECOND: Pat Salvi

VOTE: 6-0

2. **PARKS USAGE REQUESTS:**

A. G.B. WEB Dubois Legacy Committee to have their regular meeting at the Town Hall Gazebo, Wednesday, July 31, 2019 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Discussion/Vote)

MOTION: Stephen Bannon to approve.

SECOND: Paul Gibbons

VOTE: 7-0

B. Great Barrington Land Conservancy – Lake Mansfield Alliance partnering with Senta Reis and Kate Banks to extend the yoga at Lake Mansfield from August 1, 2019 to August 30, 2019 (Discussion/Vote) Ms. Banks noted there is a suggested \$10.00 donation fee. A portion of the fee goes to the instructor and a portion goes to Lake Mansfield Alliance. Karen noted as far as access to the shed, it would have to be discussed with Berkshire South and Sean VanDeusen.

MOTION: Stephen Bannon to approve.

SECOND: Paul Gibbons

VOTE: 7-0

3. **PARKS CARE AND MAINTENANCE:**

A. Updates from Sean VanDeusen, DPW Superintendent- The fountains have been fixed at Lake Mansfield and the skate park. Karen had advised the skate park staff to get some large Gator Aid containers if they need them for water in case it goes out. Nick Pohl from Berkshire South said the center has some containers. Gilmore's is supposed to fix the fountain at the Housatonic playground. Sand has been put in at the beach area at Lake Mansfield. The GB sign needs to be trimmed. Tom Ingersoll said the 2 brown areas needs to be cut out. The little league

field was opened to players a few weeks back to use for the rest of the season. The grass will be reseeded this fall. Sean VanDeusen said he will be meeting with Sean McTeigue in regard to the skate park. He noted the new budget figures aren't available yet. There is some carry forward money from FY19. Pat noted that she would check on the defibrillator money donation by Kiwanis and let Sean know the status..

C. Dewey Park Review – Liz Hirsch – There was one meeting where neighborhood people discussed they would like benches, a water source, open field, maybe pickle ball, bocce ball. Fencing along Gilmore Avenue would be good for safety. Sean noted he would look into the cost of a fence, replacement of the broken swing set and benches.

MOTION: Stephen Bannon for Sean to look into the price of a fence, swing set and benches.

SECOND: Paul Gibbons

VOTE: 7-0

D. Open Space and Recreational Task Force – Liz Hirsch – Liz noted that they met one time. The plan from 2013 was reviewed and needs to be updated. She said they will be meeting regularly throughout the summer. A survey will be done to get as many people as possible for opinions. It was suggested that the group come before the CPA for funding.

E. 5 Year Capital Plan/Discussion of Operating Budget – The FY20 budget should be ready by next meeting.

4. **OLD BUSINESS:**

A. Memorial Field update –Michael Charles of Powerhouse Square noted that there are no plans yet for Memorial Field. The next stage is to build the Co-op's parking lot. There is a wall structure, sidewalk between the parking lot and the field. Michael noted they were just doing the work pertaining to the parking lot in the next couple of weeks. It will be done from the Co-op side of the line. Fencing would be put up along the property line behind the shed. It was noted that phase 2 would begin sometime next year and it will be coordinated it with the town

5. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Berkshire South – Karen said there was a question that came from Jenise Lucey about the lifeguards not working on a rainy day (washout day) and yet getting paid. It was noted that they can do other activities if they can't work. The commissioners will meet again in October and set parameters for the lifeguards work schedule in case of a rainy day. Paul asked if the rainouts can be tracked per year.

B. Railroad Street Youth Project – Karen said she received an e-mail from Sean McTeigue in regard to a skate board repair stand. (No decision was made). It was noted that the hose is broken on the bike tire pump in front of town hall. Karen also noted that someone could go to Berkshire Bike and Blade and get another one. Sean said the tools appear to be missing. Karen said if there is something broken they need to contact Sean or her. Something could be put on the web page to state if something is broken and who to contact. Nick Pohl said he would look at it to see what is missing. Sean McTeigue said for the month of June there was 1,347 people in attendance at the skate park.

He said there have been no visits by the Police. They have just driven by. There was discussion about getting some type of net to protect the Railroad Street Youth building from baseballs. Karen said the new backstop will be higher and wider. Karen said she would discuss the police presence with the Town Manager.

6. **CITIZENS SPEAK:**

A. There were citizens from the Grove Street area noting that the basketball hoop needs to be fixed or replaced and the court needs to be swept out. Sean noted that the basketball stand and hoop will be replaced. He noted he would check in house to see if someone does line painting.

7. **COMMISSIONERS SPEAK:**

A. Paul asked if Sean could bring a financial report to future meetings.

8. **NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting is August 12, 2019 at the Mason Library at 5:00 p.m.

9. Paul Gibbons made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Pat Salvi.
All in favor

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Wichmann
Recording Secretary