

PARKS COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
MASON LIBRARY
COMMUNITY ROOM
231 MAIN STREET
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230
JUNE 10, 2019
5:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

KAREN SMITH, CHAIR
PAUL GIBBONS – VICE CHAIR
THOMAS NORTON- Not Present
PATRICIA SALVI
ILANA SIEGAL
STEPHEN BANNON
CHARLES BOUTEILLER
LIZ HIRSH - Not Present
WILLIAM MEIER

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Minutes of May 13, 2019

MOTION: Stephen Bannon to approve.

SECOND: Paul Gibbons

VOTE: 7-0

2. **PARKS USAGE REQUESTS:**

A. Update on Festival Latino of the Berkshires - Ms. Liliana Ortiz-Bermudez was present to update the board. She noted that the liability insurance is paid by Greylock and she won't have a certificate until September. Ms. Ortiz-Bermudez noted that Greylock sponsors the event. The insurance certificate will be sent prior to the event. She noted the Board of Health is asking for a list of vendors.

3. **PARKS CARE AND MAINTENANCE:**

A. Updates from Sean VanDeusen, DPW Superintendent- The water fountains aren't working at Lake Mansfield or the skate park. Parts have been ordered for the skate park. The water is on at Memorial Field. The porta potties are going in at Housatonic Park on Wednesday. The budget overran for the parks program in the amount of \$12,000 because the parks programs are beginning earlier as school ended early. Sean noted he will cover the excess. The GB sign will be trimmed next week. Sand will be added to Lake Mansfield beach area. The 3 handicapped swings were installed. One more will go in at Giggie Park. Karen noted she would like to do a press release on the handicapped swings. The weeds are really bad at the lake. There was a report of parents smoking weed at the Little League Field during a game. The Police were notified. The Little League is reprimanding the individual who did it. Stephen noted that the access road to Lake Mansfield will be discussed at the June Select Board's meeting. Stephen said he would announce, at the Select Board's Meeting, that there is no smoking or drinking allowed at public places. Sean said the grass seeding didn't take as well as they thought it would at the little league field. When they do the minor league field this fall the little league field will be fertilized and reseeded. Sean said he would send the watering schedule to Karen.

The softball field will be done in the fall or next spring. The fences that are leaning will be repaired at the Girls softball field. The Grove Street basketball stand needs to be replaced. Memorial Field – clay is being ordered. A vendor needs to be found for the lines and chalk. The same with GaGa Ball – finding a vendor. The swing set will be installed at Giggle Park after the excavation of the site by Wilkinson's.

C. Dewey Park Review – Liz Hirsh – Liz was not present. She was going to meet with the neighbors. Nick Diller noted he would like a fence, benches and water. It was noted that the swing set at Dewey Park is in bad repair. Sighting for the fence is the next step.

MOTION: Ilana Siegal to replace the swing set at Dewey Park.

SECOND: Stephen Bannon

VOTE: 7-0

D. 5 Year Capital Plan/Discussion of Operating Budget – We have \$38,000. Most of it is for Giggle Park. \$25,000 is special revenue. The next amount of money will be July 1 where we will have \$40,000. Karen said we should get an idea of the cost of the fence. Sean said he would come up with a list of what needs to be done at other parks.

4. **OLD BUSINESS:**

A. Southern Berkshire Youth Football Code of Ethics, Liability waiver, coaching conduct, Rules for 2019. Karen asked that all the information be forwarded to all the commissioners. It was noted that Girls' Softball, Babe Ruth and Little League should be contacted to see if they have the same policies in place as Youth Football. Paul asked about defibrillators. Karen said that Kiwanis said they would give \$250 towards getting a defibrillator. The hospital said they would donate \$1,000. Parks should consider getting one at the Little League complex, Olympian Meadows and Memorial Field. Paul said he would find out the cost of defibrillators.

5. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Berkshire South – Jenise Lucey was present and introduced Nick Pohl who will serve as the Director of Wellness and Recreation. Jenise noted that the porta potties need to be cleaned at Lake Mansfield and the changing room needs fixing. Berkshire South is getting ready for the July 1st opening of the Housatonic playground. Ilana said she noticed that the Lifeguards are doing a great job at the lake.

B. Railroad Street Youth Project – Sean McTeigue and Chris Tucci were present. Sean noted that they are up to 4 staff members. Sean McTeigue said he would like to get together with Sean VanDeusen to do a walk around the park. Karen suggested that Railroad Street purchase a Gator Aid container and fill it with water to use until the fountain is fixed.

C. Great Barrington Softball – proposal for Placards at Olympian Meadows
(Discussion/Vote) Nobody was present at the meeting.

D. Appointment of a member from Parks to be a representative of the CPC.

MOTION: Stephen Bannon to nominate Karen Smith to be a representative to Parks on the Community Preservation Committee.

SECOND: Pat Salvi

VOTE: 7-0

Karen accepted the nomination.

6. **CITIZENS SPEAK:**

None

7. **COMMISSIONERS SPEAK:**

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

8. **NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting is July 8, 2019 at the Mason Library at 5:00 p.m.

9. Stephen Bannon made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Paul Gibbons.
The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Wichmann
Recording Secretary