

MEETING MINUTES
PARKS COMMISSIONERS (HYBRID AND VIA ZOOM)
SELECTBOARD'S MEETING ROOM
334 MAIN STREET, GREAT BARRINGTON, MA
TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2024
5:15 PM.

PRESENT: KAREN SMITH, WILLIAM MEIER, TERRANCE CHAMBERLAND, STEPHEN BANNON, JULIE ANIDJAR, TOM NORTON/ SRIDEVI REDDY, PAUL GIBBONS, VIA ZOOM
ILANA SIEGAL WAS NOT PRESENT

1. **CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 5:16 p.m.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A. Minutes of December 11, 2023 (Discussion/Roll Call Vote)

MOTION: Terry Chamberland to approve.

SECOND: Stephen Bannon

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u>	Karen	Yes
	Tom	Yes
	Julie	Yes
	Bill	Yes
	Stephen	Yes
	Paul	Yes
	Sridevi	Yes
	Terry	Yes

MOTION PASSED **8-0**

3. **PARKS USAGE REQUEST:**

A. Devon Wagner from Railroad Street Youth Project to use the Housatonic Community Center for a queer mentoring group for LGBTQ from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Fridays. Karen noted that the DPW did an amazing job of cleaning up the center. She said all snackS should be served in the small room and not the gym.

MOTION: Stephan Bannon to approve.

SECOND: Thomas Norton

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u>	Karen	Yes
	Tom	Yes
	Julie	Yes
	Bill	Yes
	Stephen	Yes
	Paul	Yes
	Sridevi	Yes
	Terry	Yes

MOTION PASSED **8-0**

B. Jennifer Abbott of Extra Special Teas to use the Housatonic Community Center during the winter to play basketball, exercise and listen to music. After discussion, the following times were approved. Tuesdays from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Thursdays from 11:00 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. and Fridays from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. through the end of April.

MOTION: Stephen Bannon to approve.

SECOND: Bill Meier

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u>	Karen	Yes
	Tom	Yes
	Julie	Yes
	Bill	Yes
	Stephen	Yes
	Paul	Yes
	Sridevi	Yes
	Terry	Yes

MOTION PASSED **8-0**

4. **PARKS CARE AND MAINTENANCE:**

A. Joe Aberdale said that the construction at Memorial Field has been shut down for the winter. Work on Olympian Meadows is continuing to be done on nice days on the dugouts. The pads have been poured on the softball field and major league field. Lake Mansfield will also be done for the winter. We put together a schematic of Memorial Field with Railroad Street. The cost is approximately \$345,000. Steven Browning said he would like the town to enhance what we have. Do a resurface and the curves need to be redone.

MOTION: Stephen to keep moving on the skate park ideas.

SECOND: Tom

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u>	Karen	Yes
	Tom	Yes
	Julie	Yes
	Bill	Yes
	Stephen	Yes
	Paul	Yes
	Sridevi	Yes
	Terry	Yes

MOTION PASSED **8-0**

We need to understand the cost.

B. Soccer field at Olympian Meadows – It was noted that if a regulation field is put in that there would be a large resource area that would be disturbed. The permitting would take 6 to 9 months because of the flood plain. The cost would be about \$400,000. After discussion the following motion was made:

MOTION: Paul to table this to a later meeting.

SECOND: Stephen

<u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u>	Karen	Yes
	Tom	Yes
	Julie	Yes
	Bill	Yes
	Stephen	Yes
	Paul	Yes
	Sridevi	Yes
	Terry	Yes

MOTION PASSED **8-0**

C. **SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATED:**

There was no updates from the subcommittee.

5. **OLD BUSINESS:**

None

6. **NEW BUSINESS:**

Karen said she would like to do some work over the next 6 months to get kids to volunteer

7. **CITIZENS SPEAK:**

Ricard Geiler and Michael Monroe from 19 Hemlock Hill said they are wondering why horses are not allowed on the trails. Parks explained that they are not parks and therefore not under the jurisdiction of Parks and /Recreation, It would need to be put on a /select board agenda

8. **COMMISSIONER SPEAK:**

Bill Meier said he has not received a response from the /conservation /commission in regard to his letter he sent about the weeds at Lake Mansfield. It was suggested that he attend one of their meetings.

9. **PROPOSED MEETING DATES FOR 2024**

January 16 third Tuesday

February 5 first Monday *****

March 18 third Monday

April 1 first Monday *****

May 13 second Monday

June 17 third Monday

July 15 third Monday

August 19 third Monday

September 16 third Monday

October 22, third Tuesday

November 19 third Tuesday

December 9 second Monday

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Carolyn Wichmann

Carolyn Wichmann, Recording Clerk