

PARKS AND RECREATION
MASON LIBRARY
231 MAIN STREET, GREAT BARRINGTON, MA
January 23, 2020
5:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

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

1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes of December 9, 2019

MOTION: Paul Gibbons to approve

SECOND: Pat Salvi

VOTE: 6-0

3. PARKS USAGE REQUESTS:

- A. Festival Latino of the Berkshires to use the Town Hall Park on Saturday, September 26, 2020 from 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. for the Festival Latino of the Berkshires 25th Anniversary. (Discussion/Vote) (This was brought before the board in October 2019 to be voted on at a later date. A certificate of Insurance will be delivered prior to the event.)

MOTION: Pat Salvi to approve. The motion was amended by Karen Smith to approve with the condition that Festival Latino provide a dumpster and coordinate it with the DPW.

SECOND: Tom Norton

VOTE: 6-0

- B. Lee Rogers to use the Town Hall Green for the summer band concerts beginning Friday, June 5, 2020 through Friday, September 11, 2020 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Additional concerts are planned for every Wednesday in July and August at 5:00 p.m. David Grover will be playing on Saturdays in July and August from 9:00 to noon.
(Discussion/Vote)

MOTION: Paul Gibbons to approve.

SECOND: Pat Salvi

VOTE: 6-0

4. PARKS CARE AND MAINTENANCE

- A. Memorial Field Update – Sean noted that the town met with Benchmark on the work that is to be done. Our counsel will come up with a document that will be given to the developer to insure the work will be done at Memorial Field as agreed in the initial agreement. They will have to give us a bond and a time line to complete the work. Also, some temporary dugouts will be put in because the dugouts and backstop will be moved. If the money is put in the capital budget and the town does the work, they won't have access to complete the next phase of the project. This will be further discussed at the February meeting.
- B. The weed barrier at Lake Mansfield will be extended and to install and remove it will be about \$8,000 annually. The pulling of the weeds would be part of installing the mats. Additional money was put in the operating budget/parks management for lifeguards as the account ran short last year. Some more picnic tables will be put up at the lake. The town just received a grant to redesign the parking area. Giggle Park is mostly constructed. We are waiting for the frost to leave the ground so we can do the fence.
- C. Dewey Park/Grove Street Park Review – Karen said that Liz would be at the next meeting to give an update.
- D. Open Space and Recreation Task Force – There will be a meeting at Berkshire South on Thursday, January 30, 2020 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- E. 5 Year Capital Plan/Operative Budget – There is a narrative on line.

5. **OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. Housatonic Community Center and Gazebo – under parks jurisdiction – Sean said the Select Board didn't have a problem with those two properties being under the parks jurisdiction. The details will have to be worked out with the Town Manager and Select Board.
- B. Tighe and Bond Park Inventory – Needs Assessment and Mapping – Sean said \$6,000 will be used from the engineering budget and \$6,000 from the parks budget to fund the assessment. Assessment management and preliminary engineering will allow us to use CPA money for major upgrade to the parks. Given capital means for fences, baseball fields, a lot of money has to go to fixing what we already have.

6. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Berkshire South – Nick Pohl said that inquiries have been coming in for summer jobs. He will talk to Pat Salvi about sun shades at the Lake and Housatonic Playground.
- B. Railroad Street Youth Project – Ananda said she will obtain a final report on the summer program. Sean McTeigue is acting as coordinator during the summer. Ananda said she found ways to keep him on staff during the winter and would like to look at creating a part time position that allows him to integrate what happens in summer with park programming and with Railroad Street.
- C. National Fitness Park Grant – Karen Smith – No follow-up at this time. No discussion.
- D. Steve Roots presented information on a pump track – he will return at some time with more information. (The information is attached to these minutes).
- E.

7. **CITIZEN'S SPEAK TIME:**

Pat Salvi announced that Kiwanis is having their 20th Annual Scholarship raffle. It is a truck raffle. \$20,000 is the first prize, it is a \$50.00 ticket and it goes to the Kiwanis of Sheffield Scholarship fund.

8. **COMMISSIONERS SPEAK:**

None

9. **NEXT MEETING:**

Sean VanDeusen suggested moving the parks meetings back to Town Hall. It was decided the next meeting on February 10, 2020 will be at Town Hall in the small meeting room at 5:00 p.m.

10. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Paul Gibbons made a motion to adjourn, Pat Salvi seconded the motion.
The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Wichmann, Recording Secretary