

MEETING MINUTES (VIA ZOOM)
PARKS COMMISSIONERS
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230
MONDAY, JULY 13, 2020
5:00 P.M.

PRESENT: **KAREN SMITH, CHAIR**
PAUL GIBBONS, VICE CHAIR
STEPHEN BANNON
THOMAS NORTON
ILANA SIEGAL
WILLIAM MEIER – NOT PRESENT
CHARLES BOUTEILLER- NOT PRESENT

1. **CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Minutes of June 8, 2020

MOTION: Paul Gibbons to approve as written.

SECOND: Stephen Bannon

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Karen Smith	Yes
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Paul Gibbons	Yes
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Stephen Bannon Yes

Thomas Norton Yes

Ilana Siegal	Yes
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MOTION CARRIED **5-0**

3. PARKS USAGE REQUEST:

None

4. **PARKS CARE AND MAINTENANCE:**

A. **Memorial Field Update** – Tom Ingersoll – he noted him and two other volunteers' dugout and retrofitted the anchor to replace home plate which the Millers purchased from Stadium Systems. The first and third bases were stripped. The batter circle was weeded manually. The rest of the field is in bad shape. He noted that a sod stripper might work. Bob Redpath noted that they will not be using Memorial Field now. It was suggested to get some kids to help with a cleaning day.

B. **Updates from Sean VanDeusen, DPW Superintendent** – No updates as Sean was on vacation.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Policies and Procedures re: COVID 19 situation – Phase 3 – not discussed

B. **Vacancies for Parks Commissioners** – not discussed

6. OLD BUSINESS:

A. Tighe and Bond Park Inventory, Needs Assessment and Mapping – not discussed.

B. **Berkshire South** – Andrew – Karen said a town official wanted to be sure that the kids were reminding people about social distancing. Jenise said most of the public are respectable of the employees at the lake except for some tourists. They are managing the crowd and keeping the attendance at 100 head count max. The caution tape was removed and the swings were opened up. Instructions are there about sanitizing. Park and Recc needs to address the people using paddle boards beyond the ropes. Karen has asked the town manager about how many tickets have been issued for parking violations. Housatonic playground is open and people need to sanitize the equipment after use.

C. **Railroad Street Youth Project** – Ananda said the tent is up at Memorial Field for casual drop-ins. There is a new skate park director who is getting oriented. There is an all age offering – Staff Mindfulness

Practice program which the community and young people are invited to. It will be virtual and in the tent. There are two confidential mentoring program clubs for kids in the 8th grade through high school. Also a questionnaire will go out with contact information in regard to a LGBTG club. A youth operation board will meet in the tent biweekly at 4:00 p.m. and the other week it will be intergenerational board. There is a young person working on a book club. Lifeworks classes are held in the space.

D. **Status of Olympian Meadows Fields** – Mark Viola – the softball field has been weeded and raked. He noted they have water, a hose and a sprinkler. Karen thanked him for getting it done. Little League Field – Karen thanked Eric, and Chris and Paul for going and examining the minor league field. A lot of money was spent and it wasn't done correctly. Paul wrote an e-mail about the field and it was forwarded to the DPW and Town Manager. Work has to be done on the non- minor league field. It was suggested to talk to John Malumphy who is the new assistant DPW person about getting hoses, etc. for the minor league field. The infield is not good at all. It was reseeded but it didn't fill in. The little league field will be rolled. The minor league field has a lot of sand in it and wasn't worked into the surface. The skin was excavated and replaced with what the DPW purchased. Karen said if we can get it fixed, it would be great. Karen said to talk to John Malumphy. The mowing machine has been throwing seed on the infield. Tom said he would meet with anyone who would like to meet with him at the property. Paul's e-mail will be forwarded to Tom. New bases have been ordered.

7. **CITIZENS SPEAK:**

8. **COMMISSIONERS SPEAK:** - Karen noted that the Yoga at Lake Mansfield has been going well. A letter was received from Christine Ward noting that the staff from Berkshire South has been doing a great job. Great Barrington and Berkshire South will be putting up three 8 x 4' gardens along the fence on 183 at the playground. . Lee Majors is funding them all.

9. **NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 10, 2020 – TBA

A motion was made by Paul Gibbons and seconded by Stephen Bannon to adjourn the Zoom meeting.

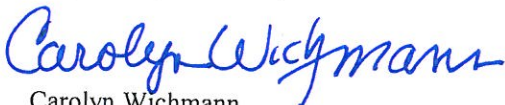
ROLL CALL VOTE:

Karen Smith	Yes
Paul Gibbons	Yes
Stephen Bannon	Yes
Thomas Norton	Yes
Ilana Siegal	Yes

MOTION CARRIED 5-0

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Wichmann
Recording Secretary