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TOWN OF MEDWAY
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
PARKS COMMISSION

APPROVED 12/9/2020

Town of Medway
Board of Park Commissioners Meeting
October 28, 2020
Remote Meeting Via Zoom

In attendance:

Park Commissioners: Debi Rossi, Chair, Sean Murphy, John Farrell, Lyle Core, Joanne Williams

Others: Julie Harrington, Director of Parks and Recreation, Peter Pelletier, Deputy Director of Department of Public Works, Dan Shea, Medway Youth Soccer, Rich Coakley Medway Youth Baseball, Jason Boucher Medway Youth Lacrosse

Chairman Rossi called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Pavilion Use:

Ms. Rossi mentioned that this Committee had previously gone to the Board of Selectmen requesting that permits & fees be required for use of pavillion, request was denied. Discussed whether this request should be reconsidered due to COVID and several incidences of trash left behind. Question regarding fairness of charging fee for use of this space and how this would be policed. Ms. Rossi said she will get on the Board of Selectmen's agenda and request they discuss a plan.

Field Status:

Mr Farrell noted the following:

Cassidy: the replanted grass is dead, needs to be replanted again

Idylbrook: grass looks great, bullpen needs to be rebuilt, field in great shape

Middle School: weeds in infield, no bullpen, no outfield fence

High School: OK condition, no visitor bullpen, no protective fencing in front of fans

Ms. Williams visited Deerfield Park, said that it looks to be a possible pond for ice skating.

Mr. Core will visit all grass fields at Idylbrook, Oakland, Middle School.

Ms. Rossi will visit Choate, Oakland, other parks/playgrounds.

Mr. Murphy will visit all high school fields & tennis courts.

Ms. Rossi asked that visits be completed by next meeting. Please rank what needs attention/repair.

VFW:

Ms. Rossi noted that VFW needs a lot of work. Tabled to future meeting.

Tournaments 2020/21:

2020: Ms Harrington mentioned two groups have requested soccer tournaments in late November. NEFC requested all three fields on November 20. Waiting on confirmation. Mass Prep wants to use fields 11/20-29. Medway Gridiron requested November 20 for a team building activity because football is not taking place. Once Ms. Harrington gets more details, we will hold a special meeting to vote.

2021: Two groups have requested Memorial Day - South Shore Select & Dave Stewart. Gold Star Lacrosse Tournament is TBD as everything will be pushed back with spring sports. Mr. Boucher noted that Medway Youth Lacrosse tentatively request all three fields March 27-28 for their 'spring tune-up.'

Field Plowing:

Reviewed estimate from Mr. Pelletier, discussion around who pays when another town using our field, and expected turnaround time. Ms. Rossi requested that Mr. Pelletier continue speaking with Michael Boynton about where money comes from for this.

Story Walk at Choate:

Ms. Harrington mentioned that the library received a grant for story-boards starting at Thayer House and going clockwise around pond. No cost to us, asking for approval for temporary stakes at Choate.

Upon a motion by Ms. Williams and seconded by Mr. Murphy, the Board voted unanimously to approve temporary stakes for the Story Walk at Choate Park. The motion carried.

Chair's Comments:

Budget: Due to EEE & COVID, revenue has decreased yet expenses remain the same. Suffered \$40,000 loss in Quarter 1. Spent \$20,000 Q1 to light fields. Income Q1 was \$77,000, expected Q2 is \$65,000 Ms. Rossi is concerned about the lack of revenue, has spoken to Michael Boynton. Asked members to keep on their radar that we may need to ask Town to fund budget eventually.

Director's Update:

Had several Halloween week events including pumpkin carving, trunk or treat, pumpkin walk, pictures in the park with Tim Rice. Programs have done well this fall. Ms. Harrington sent reminders to all field users to pay their balances.

Ms. Rossi reminded Mr. Boucher & Mr. Coakley to get their requests in to Julie ASAP.

Mr. Murphy expressed concern over a group of high school kids playing football on permitted fields. Numerous times, he has asked them to leave and asked high school football coach to speak with them. Rich will discuss the concerns with coach again. Suggested that kids can check online schedule first.

Ms. Rossi mentioned the re-dedication ceremony to name park after Buzz Johnson was a success last weekend. Nice turnout.

Approval of Minutes:

Upon a motion by Mr. Farrell and seconded by Ms. Williams, the Board voted unanimously to approve the September 30th minutes as amended. The motion carried.

Future Park Meeting Dates:

Meeting to vote on November tournaments TBD
December 9 at 7PM

Upon a motion by Mr. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Farrell the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the remote meeting via Zoom at 8:54 p.m. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen S. Tegelaar, Night Board Secretary