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TOWN OF MEDWAY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

PARKS COMMISSION

APPROVED 3/22/2023

Town of Medway
Board of Park Commissioners Meeting
February 22, 2023 – 6:30 PM
Sanford Hall – Medway Town Hall

Park Commissioners: Debi Rossi, John Farrell, Sean Murphy, Rick D’Innocenzo

Absent: Lyle Core

Others: Julie Harrington Director of Parks & Recreation,
Judith Moffatt – Medway Cultural Council
Pete Pelletier –Director DPW
Nick Guarino – Medway Youth Baseball
Paul Ramos – Medway Youth Lacrosse

Call to Order: At 6:32PM, Ms. Rossi called the meeting to order.

Public Comments: There were none at this time.

1. Approval of Minutes: January 25, 2023

Ms Rossi made motion to approve minutes with edits. Mr. Murphy seconded 3-0-1 (Mr. Farrell abstained as he wasn’t at 1/25 meeting)

2. Pixie Festival – July 29 – Discussion/vote

Judith Moffatt from Medway Cultural Council presented information. This is the 3rd year for this event. It will be held at the park, near the playground. She provided a plan/map. The proposed date is July 29, 12-5 but they will need 3 hrs prior to set up and 2-3 hr after to take down. Attendance and participation has been increasing each year. She asked committee to confirm that there will be parking available at the ball field and she is thinking of hiring some high school students to direct overflow parking. She also asked to confirm that she could use 2 electrical outlets. They are planning to have the TC Scoops truck again and asked about also getting another food truck. Ms. Moffatt asked about using popcorn machine, cotton candy and coolers and also asked about borrowing folding chairs to put around musician area. The committee let her know to contact John from Thayer house for popcorn, cotton candy and tables. Ms. Harrington will be able to provide some chairs. Ms. Moffatt hired someone from Boston Public Library to lead children and hired David Penza to play music. There will be a picture area, pixie throne, dress up area, a wishing well, face painting, garland making and a pixie parade. She

asked DPW to provide trash cans/bags. The Medway Public library will display the pixie houses for the month of August. They will put something in the paper to let community know about event and making houses. Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve Pixie Festival, Mr. D'Innocenzo seconded. Vote unanimous 4-0.

3. Medway Youth Baseball – Nick Guarino – Redoing Podzka infield –

Mr. Guarino from Medway Youth Baseball (MYB) presented 2 quotes for repairs to Podzka baseball field as well as some upgrades/repairs to other fields. He said it is getting hard for the kids to play on. Much of the upkeep is being done by parents/volunteers. There has been some work on mound and bases done about 3-4 years ago, but infield needs to be redone. The quotes include fixing irrigation and areas around dugout in addition to the infield. Another option in the quote is to put synthetic landing strip in front of the pitcher's mound for an additional cost. Ms. Rossi mentioned that Parks Dept loses money on Cassidy. MYB proposed that they cover the costs of the repairs on other 3 fields and the Parks Dept cover the costs of repairs on Podzka. Mr. Farrell said that many other fields need repair and would be a bigger priority than Podzka/Cassidy. Ms. Rossi asked if it is dangerous to be used. Mr. Guarino asked contractors to get this done before the spring, should take approximately a week for the work and they would have to stay off for another week, estimated life of repairs is about 10 years. The last full re-build was Leland infield, \$15,000 about 10 years ago. Mr. Murphy asked the MYB provide financials to Ms. Harrington. Mr. Farrell feels that it could likely cost more with all of the grading needed. MYB had originally been told that Parks Dept would consider paying half for Podzka and MYB to cover the other half, so Ms. Rossi was not expecting a request for funding all of Podzka repairs. Mr. Murphy feels MYB is in a unique situation because they are the only one to use the fields so Parks can't rent to others, he wants to see financials to see what their need is. Registrations for their programs have been steady. Mr. Guarino will go back and ask MYB board to provide financials. Ms. Rossi will add as a topic for next meeting.

4. Spring Tournaments: Discussion/vote

2 groups are asking to host tournaments Memorial Day weekend, New England Surf submitted paperwork for Soccer Fri-Sun) and Steve Kovaks from Mass Prep emailed this week asking if a field was available. Ms. Rossi makes a motion to give to New England Surf the field for Memorial Day weekend and Mr. Farrell seconded the motion. Vote approved unanimously, 4-0. Ms. Harrington confirmed that there will be no Scorpion Bowl this year. Ms. Rossi asked about HS graduation and conflict with softball tournament using HS fields. Ms. Harrington will look into timing of graduation.

5. Spring Fields: Discussion/vote

Ms. Rossi questioned why there were 19 nights that Hanlon isn't available, and Mr. Farrell confirmed that it was due to night games for HS lacrosse. Ms. Harrington did her best to accommodate all requests. Medway Youth Lacrosse is not able to get the turf field 2 times per week every week. Schedules will frequently change due to weather and HS sports changes. HS games are starting later this year which makes scheduling more difficult. Ms. Harrington told Mr. Ramos from Medway Lacrosse that they could get access to turf field from 7:30-9:00 some nights. Mr. Ramos will speak with John Cloutier about scheduling later practices from 7:30-9:00. Ms. Rossi asked that Mr. Ramos also let Mr. Cloutier know about the later HS games being the reason for the scheduling issues. Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve spring field schedule and Mr. D'Innocenzo seconded with Ms. Harrington able to fill in as needed. Approved 4-0, unanimously.

6. Choate events: Boy Scout recruiting event – June 10 – 10:00-12:00

This is an event that they have done in the past. They host model boat races try to get registrations for scouts. Mr. D’Innocenzo made a motion to permit the boy scout recruitment event as requested, Ms. Rossi seconded. 4-0 – Vote approved unanimously.

7. Summer Concerts – Food trucks - discussion

Ms. Harrington had an idea about bringing in a food truck for those nights. Mr. D’Innocenzo asked if they need a permit. Parks Dept would approve the use of a food truck, but the truck would need to obtain a permit from the town through the Board of Health.

Mr. Farrell made a motion to approve having food trucks at the summer concerts at Oakland, Mr. D’Innocenzo seconded. Approved 4-0 unanimously.

8. Chair update

None

9. DPW update

Mr. Pelletier informed committee that Sean Harrington is leaving Medway DPW for a job in Bellingham on March 10. At this time, the position is not being filled due to a budget decision and a reevaluation of the role of the position.

10. Director’s update

Ms. Harrington reported that summer registration is open and many sessions are already sold out. They are teaming up with the farm and some outside vendor camps for some programs. There is legislation coming that state is going to require AEDs at all playing fields. Parks Dept will need to keep an eye on the requirements. Many fields already have them, Mr. Pelletier suggested talking to the Fire Chief about obtaining additional ones when the time comes.

Ms. Rossi asked to add score board update, field fees and Podzka field to the next agenda.

Motion to Adjourn: At 8:22 PM, Mr. Farrell offered a motion to adjourn. Mr. Murphy seconded this motion, which passed unanimously. VOTE: 4-0.

Future Park Meeting Dates: March 22, 2023

Respectfully submitted by,
Marianne Boynton, Recording Secretary
Commonwealth of Massachusetts