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TOWN OF MEDWAY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

PARKS COMMISSION

APPROVED 8/28/2024

Town of Medway
Board of Park Commissioners Meeting
July, 2024 – 6:30 PM
Sanford Hall, Medway Town Hall
155 Village Street

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

Absent: John Farrell

Others: Julie Harrington Director of Parks & Recreation
Peter Pelletier, Director of Department of Public Works

Call to Order: 6:32pm

Public Comments: None

Other Business:

1. Approval of Minutes: June 26, 2024

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the June 26, 2024 meeting minutes with corrections. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion. Vote – approved 3-0

2. SAFE Coalition flags at Choate Park – August 28 – September 2: Discussion/Vote

Ms. Rossi noted that she felt that the town sign policy would prohibit flags. The representatives from the SAFE Coalition did not attend to discuss. Their email noted that during overdose awareness week, they want to put up small purple flags to honor those who passed away from drugs. Ms. Rossi suggested that they ask at the plaza since it is private property. Mr. Murphy suggested they use the electronic board to list names or numbers.

3. Boy Scout Events Summer/Fall 2024: Discussion/Vote

a. 8/18 (Sunday)– Fishing Day at Choate 9-1pm. Ms. Harrington noted that they will set up a tent and do a fishing derby. There are no concerns or conflicts.

- b. 9/7 (Sat) – Recruiting event at Choate Park 9-1pm
- c. 9/14 (Sun) – Mapping Compass at Idylbrook 10-5pm. Mr. Core suggested that they park in the Ward's Lane parking lot due to soccer.
- d. 11/16 – Rocket Day at Idylbrook 9-1pm

Ms. Rossi made a motion to approve the Boy Scout events on the dates and time above. Mr. Core seconded the motion. Vote – approved 3-0

4. Pixie Festival Storage at Dog Park Shed: Discussion/Vote

Mr. Harrington received an email from Judith Moffatt requesting to use the storage shed at the dog park to store supplies for the Pixie Festival. Commissioners were concerned about the liability of things stored in the shed being damaged.

Mr. Murphy made a motion not to allow the use of the dog park shed for Pixie Festival storage. Mr. Core seconded the motion. Approved – Vote 3-0.

5. VFW use by Parks and Recreation

Ms. Rossi noted that the Town is going to have the VFW building assessed to determine what would need to be done for Parks & Recreation to occupy the building. There are tenants there now until the end of the year. They are not paying rent; they are paying for the utilities to VFW. As of 12/31/24, the town is taking over the building. They are discussing whether the tenants can continue to use space (Native Kitchen and Cousins Maine Lobster). Ms. Harrington said the space is ok and it would be great to have the field and pavilion there too. Mr. Murphy asked if it was worth making any improvements to the field. Mr. Pelletier noted that it would cost too much money.

Ms. Rossi made a motion to support using the VFW for Parks & Recreation programs and offices. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion. Approved Vote 3-0.

6. Fall Field scheduling

Ms. Harrington noted that football (flag and tackle) starts next week.

Ms. Rossi made a motion to allow football to use fields with the same schedule as the previous year. Mr. Murphy seconded the motion. Approved Vote 3-0

Ms. Harrington is still waiting for the schedule for Medway Youth soccer and Medway Youth football game schedules before she can finalize the fall fields schedule. Mr. Core confirmed that we will not be renting lights.

7. Chair update

Ms. Rossi walked the Hanlon track with Glenn Trindade and Frank Rossi, it's in worse conditional than she thought. At the far end, it looks like parts are sinking. The scoreboard hums and Ms. Harrington noted that sometimes it turns on randomly when there is a storm. They asked the track coach to view the track with them and he was not able to join them. Ms. Rossi will put together the numbers to replace and repair the track and the field (all grass). If it's redone, revenue would be lost because it would be offline. The surface of the track is not a natural surface. Once the potential cost is confirmed, Mr. Core noted that we should start asking the sports organizations to attend the meetings. Ms. Rossi will be reaching out to those groups to ask them to start attending in August and Mr. Murphy noted that they should be asked to bring

their financials. They discussed the idea of repositioning the backstop at the baseball field to make room for seating and additional bullpen space. Mr. D'Innocenzo asked about the price for the fields and whether it would be a capital budget item. Mr. Pelletier noted that they should probably just do the whole field.

8. Director's update

Ms. Harrington noted that summer is busy. The splash pad might be fixed soon, the part has come in and needs to be installed and tested. Summer camp is going well and there are 80 kids on the swim team. The concerts are going well. Ms. Rossi asked about parking at the Dave Matthews tribute band and Ms. Harrington noted that it was ok, noting that there may have been lower attendance due to the heat.

Ms. Harrington reminded the group that October 25 (Friday night) is the Pumpkin Walk. The Cassidy field parking lot is being refinished and should be completed by then. If not, Ms. Harrington will investigate using the Plaza or Community Church.

Middle school fencing. – Mr. Pelletier gave an update that the project is moving along, but they did receive a change notice for more funding due to some damaged posts. The project should be completed next week. Ms. Rossi asked if the original amount funded by Parks would cover the project. Mr. Pelletier confirmed that they found alternate funding for the additional expenses.

Mr. Pelletier noted Turf fields to be groomed in early September. The Gmax testing was done at Lamson & North in June and Hanlon will be done after next grooming.

The fencing at North Field needs to be fixed because the ends that were damaged from snow plowing. Ms. Rossi asked about cost and Mr. Pelletier estimated \$8,000. He is in the process of getting prices. Mr. D'Innocenzo asked about the other fencing and Mr. Pelletier said the rest is in good shape. Mr. Pelletier noted that the fields are in good shape, probably due to grooming. Every season the pitcher's mound at the Lamson softball field needs to be repaired. Mr. D'Innocenzo suggested looking at other materials so that it lasts longer.

Adjourn:

Mr. Murphy made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:38. Mr. Core seconded the motion.

Approved, vote 4-0.

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