

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, April 23, 2014
Minutes

PRESENT: Meghan O'Connor, Laura Ferguson, Angelo Franzese, Patrick Morton, Bill Pullan, Gary Regan, Lou Valenti, Rachael McGrath and Eileen Earle.

ABSENT: None

CALL TO ORDER: Meghan O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of the minutes for March 26, 2014 was accepted on a motion by Angelo Franzese seconded by Gary Regan then approved by all members present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE, PAYROLL AND INCOME: The Expenditures Report is fine; no adjustments need to be made. The Cash Balance Report shows a decrease in comparison to this time last year but will show an increase by the end of the month due to summer camp registration this week.

On a motion by Gary Regan and seconded by Pat Morton the Accounts payable, Payroll and Income were accepted and unanimously approved by all members present.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

PROGRAMS: Spring Programs are ending in two weeks and a five week mini session is being offered. The mini session will start on May 5. For the summer movie nights, Rachael is planning on showing two G rated movies for June and August; Frozen and Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs. In July she would like to show a PG rated movie, The Hunger Games Catching Fire, for the teens in town. After some discussion the commission members agreed that this would be appropriate to show.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Spring Season has started and we are a little behind with the Park Maintenance. This winter the parking lot at Parloa was used for a location to place all the snow that was plowed. Now that the snow as melted, the next four days our staff will be removing the garbage that is now left behind and getting the lot ready for parking.
- The leagues have started this week. Youth Lacrosse and Track will be meeting to iron out their scheduling conflict.
- Eileen met with Steve Palmer, Planning and Zoning, and AT&T to discuss the possibility of installing a cell tower at Mitchell Park. According to the meeting the pole would be 70 feet in height and would be located in the parking lot behind the left field area of Leonard Field. The plan is to replace the existing light pole with a cell tower and have the lights installed on it. The housing for the machinery will be installed along the stone wall by the BMX track. This cell tower installation would improve the cell phone service for the residents in the Stony Hill area as well as for the Stony Hill Firehouse.

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AT & T would fence in the area around the cell tower, put down gravel in the parking area and landscape with bushes etc. The town would also receive monthly revenue for the use of town property. Bill Pullan raised his concerns regarding the health issues to the public and that further research should be done. Eileen will follow through and check about the safety issues involved. After much discussion Lou Valenti made a motion that it is the consensus of the Parks and Recreation Commission to further investigate this, that it would be harmless to the users of the park, with revenues be applied to Parks and Rec.'s Capital Fund, seconded by Pat Morton, abstained by Bill Pullan, and then approved by members present.

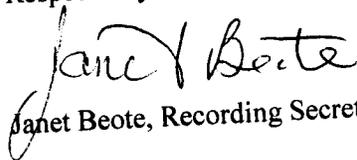
DOG PARK: Eileen Earle will meet with the Girl Scouts tomorrow to discuss ways to generate funds so that fencing could be installed to have the park open by the fall.

FRANC PROPERTY: At the Board of Selectmen meeting last night it was voted to have the Franc Preserve under the jurisdiction of the Parks and Rec. Commission. The Franc Preserve is located on the corner of Plumtrees and Old Hawleyville Road. The Franc family deeded this property to the town with the stipulation it would be preserved as open space and be used for passive recreation while being kept in its natural state.

As there was no further business on tonight's agenda, Angelo Franzese made a motion which was seconded by Bill Pullan to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm. Vote, all in favor, motion unanimously approved.

The next Parks and Rec. Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, **May 28, 2014** at 7:30 p.m. in the Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center.

Respectfully submitted,


Janet Beote, Recording Secretary