

PARKS COMMISSIONERS
TOWN HALL
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
334 MAIN STREET
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230
MONDAY, APRIL 25, 2011
6:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

PAUL GIBBONS, CHAIRMAN

CHRISTINE WARD

KAREN SMITH

STEVEN BANNON

CHARLES BOUTEILLER- NOT PRESENT

ELIZA CRESCENTINI

THOMAS NORTON

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

A. SAFETY ISSUES AT MEMORIAL FIELD AND SKATE PARK

The Parks Commission was notified by a concerned parent advising of safety issues at Memorial Field and the Skate Park at its meeting on April 11, 2011. The parent said that they observed the use of drugs and alcohol at the park. A letter was forwarded to the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen with a copy to the Town Manager requesting that the commissioners be placed on the April 25, 2011 agenda to discuss this concern. Mr. Gibbons stated in the letter that the Parks Commissioners wish to be pro-active in park safety and would like to discuss the implementation of a plan to improve and increase police presence at the park. There was a general discussion on installing a crosswalk light, and installing cameras for safety.

B. CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

Mr. Gibbons advised that he has been researching fitness trail equipment on the internet. He noted he spoke to a representative at Play World Systems in Uxbridge. This equipment is for active older adults. The company can install the system, volunteers can install it and they can supervise the installation. It was noted that it is quite expensive. A second choice was David William Associates. They have three different kinds: Tri Active Fitness, Par Course, and Fit Kid. Mr. Gibbons noted that he would e-mail Tri-Active America to obtain a price list. Mr. Gibbons noted that Lenox High School has the Tri Active Equipment. The equipment is located behind the school on concrete slabs. Instruction signs are available describing how to use the equipment. It is recommended that metal stations be purchased vs. wood because it will last longer. It was suggested that the pieces could be ordered and then a decision can be made where to install them. Ms. Ward suggested placing the equipment so as to connect Park Street Park and Grove Street Park. In the meantime, a site visit was set up for Friday, April 29, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. to view the equipment at the Lenox High School.

C. **ARBOR DAY PLANTING ON APRIL 29, 2011 – STANLEY PARK**

Mr. Sokul advised that Mr. Peretti, Tree Warden, notified him that The GB Tree Committee approached him about replacing the tree that was cut down at Stanley Park with a Princeton Elm Tree. The tree will be planted on Arbor Day by Tom Whalen Nurseries who donated the tree. After discussion, the commissioners noted no objections.

It was noted that additional mulch needs to be purchased for the Housatonic Playground and the warning track at Memorial Field needs more material.

Ms. Ward advised that there is an issue with Beavers at Lake Mansfield and she has been corresponding with the Board of Health and the Conservation Commission on a solution.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Wichmann
Secretary