

PARKS COMMISSIONERS
MASON LIBRARY
231 MAIN STREET
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230
MONDAY, MAY 13, 2013
5:00 P.M.

PRESENT:
PAUL GIBBONS
CHARLES BOUTEILLER
THOMAS NORTON
STEVE BANNON
PATRICIA SALVI
KATHY PLUNGIS

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

MOTION: Mr. Bannon to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2013 meeting.

SECOND: Mr. Bouteiller

VOTE: 6-0

2. **PARKS CARE AND MAINTENANCE:**

Joe noted that the Highway Dept. has been assisting in Cemetery/Parks because of vacation schedules. The Millers cleaned up Memorial Field and spread the infield mix. The Town rolled the field for them. He noted the mower is in the shop being fixed. The fence at Lake Mansfield will be shifted to hold the second porta-potty. The swing set came in for the lake. Mr. Sokul said he will have to hire staff to install it. Wilkinson's is tentatively scheduled to put the equipment in on South Street next week. It will need to be staked out. It was noted that Craig Lang would like to be involved in it. Mr. Sokul said he would e-mail Paul as to when they can meet to determine the location of the pieces of equipment and stake it out.

Joe advised that the state contract for Big Toys has expired. Joe said they will be getting a new contract the first of June. We will have to get back to Big Toys to be sure they are on the bid list and they are going to have to submit a quote based on that contract. The FAC54 which they reference expired last May. The quotes for the instillation will have to be confirmed as well. Joe noted the instillation costs were around \$8,500. Paul noted the cost for the playground structure which included transportation and approximately \$8,500 for instillation; the total cost will be approximately \$42,000. We can take the e-mail from the state and send it over to the Town accountant for carryover. The softball group did some work at the little league field. Joe said he is going to see what is left over for infield mix to determine if more needs to be ordered. Joe Wilkinson is putting the sewer and water line on the schedule to get the work done. Joe said we may be able to save money because we don't have to run the sewer as far as we thought and we can tie into the force main with the equipment and parts that are there.

3. **PARKS USAGE REQUESTS:**

A. CHP/Family Network to use Mansfield Lake Park July 11, 18, 25 and August 1, 8, and 15 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Allison Rada was present for questions.

MOTION: Mr. Bannon

SECOND: Mr. Norton

VOTE: 6-0

B. Southern Berkshire Babe Ruth to use Memorial Field May 1, 2013 through July 27, 2013, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. No representative from the league was present so the commissioners did not act on the Parks Usage Request. Mr. Gibbons said he would contact Mr. Lucey in regard to a certificate of insurance naming the Town of Great Barrington as additional insured.

C. Railroad Street Youth Project, 60 Bridge Street to use the skate park/basketball court May 24, July 26, and August 23rd from 7:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. for a rest area during a dance. It was explained that the dance is to raise money for young people.

MOTION: Mr. Bannon to approve.

SECOND: Mr. Norton

VOTE: 6-0

D. **(NOT ON THE AGENDA)** Railroad Street Youth Project, 60 Bridge Street to use Memorial Field on June 21, 2013 from 3:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m. for a music event. It was noted that they are expecting between 50 and 100 people. They noted they want to put a stage up. The skate park would be used from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. with the concert running from 7:30 p.m. to 12:00 p.m. They are requesting the later time for clean-up. It was noted that there is a conflict with the Berkshire Co-Op Summer Solstice. They were advised to return with another date.

4. **OLD BUSINESS:**

A. Chris Rembold – Open Space and Recreation Plan Update, Preliminary Final Draft. Chris noted that it has been submitted to the conservation commission, Planning Board and board of Selectmen along with the Berkshire Regional Planning and the State. The State sent back a letter saying it has been conditionally approved through 2018. We have been approved for certain open space recreation acquisition grants through that time. He noted we still have to finalize this plan. He also noted he is seeking a formal comment letter from the commission so it can be included in the final plan. Chris advised the draft is on the town's website. He noted the plan does not make a recommendation for any new parks and playgrounds. It does suggest additional staffing for DPW Parks and Cemeteries. It was noted that he would like a vote to approve the plan at the June 10th meeting.

5. **BERKSHIRE SOUTH**

A. Laura Martin - She noted that the skate park has been staffed. Angela Pevzner is going to be the skate park coordinator. Lake Mansfield will be staffed beginning Memorial Day weekend. A head lifeguard has not been hired yet as none of the applicants have the right qualifications. It will be staffed every weekend until school is out. After school is out, it will be staffed 7 days a week. According to the contract, we staff 7 days a week until school starts and then Labor Day weekend and Labor Day. Housatonic playground opens July 1st.

Emily Shaw of Housatonic represented a group of residents of Housatonic that formed a committee about plans for the space up at the Housatonic Playground. She said she met with Tom and two other Housatonic residents and the Big Toys sales representative about thoughts where the new structure should go. She noted that she would like to get community members involved in it and offer assistance. Paul noted that she could be included on the next month's agenda. Paul advised situation with the state contract. If the structure we want to purchase from the company is on the state bid list we don't have to write specifications, etc. The town will need to get new quotes under the contract from the state. Paul explained that we are going to pay a third party to install it. Pat Salvi said she probably could get volunteers from Kiwanis to help. Tom said we need a master plan for the rest of the playground.

Hwoard Trombley and John MacGruer were present to speak about Grove Street Park. He noted the fence corners were fixed and the swing set looks good. He asked if there could be a liaison with the Parks Commission if there is going to be a tree removal or planting. Joe said he would talk to the tree committee about replanting trees to provide a visual barrier and clean up the area.

The meeting adjourned t 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Wichmann
Secretary