

PARKS COMMISSIONERS
TOWN HALL
334 MAIN STREET
GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230
MONDAY, APRIL 19, 2016
5:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

PAUL GIBBONS- not present

KAREN SMITH

CHARLES BOUTEILLER

THOMAS NORTON

STEPHEN BANNON

PATRICIA SALVI

KATHY PLUNGIS

ANTHONY TROIANO

DONOVAN LALLY- not present

Call to Order:

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A. Minutes of March 14, 2016

MOTION: Kathy Plungis to approve.

SECOND: Pat Salvi

VOTE: 6-0

2. **PARKS USAGE REQUESTS:**

A. Babe Ruth – John Lucey – to use Memorial Field from May 1 through July 31, Monday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday from 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. John noted he would submit the Parks Usage Request Form and the Certificate of Insurance when he receives it from Babe Ruth.

MOTION: Stephen Bannon to approve contingent upon receipt of the Parks Usage Request form and Certificate of Insurance for liability.

SECOND: Charlie Bouteiller

VOTE: 7-0

B. Great Barrington Millers to use Memorial Field on Thursdays from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. from April 7, 2016 through Saturday October 6, 2016 and Sundays from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 pm. beginning Monday May 1, 2016 through August 28th.

MOTION: Stephen Bannon to approve.

SECOND: Pat Salvi

VOTE: 7-0

It was noted that the town has discussed implementing a user fee to use the fields or require some maintenance on the field. In the case of maintenance, the user fee may be waived. Scott MacFarland was present representing the Millers. Karen asked him about the maintenance for the field and if the Millers had plans to maintain the field. Scott noted that the team members get together prior to beginning of the games to prep the field. He thought Wilkinson was turning

over the infield dirt. Karen requested a list of what equipment would be required in order to maintain the field.

C. Southern Berkshire Youth Football to use Olympian Meadows from August to November 2016. No one was present representing the team. It was noted to forward an e-mail to them requesting their presence at the May 16, 2016 meeting.

D. Berkshire South Regional Community Center – to use Lake Mansfield Beach area on June 5, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for the 22nd Annual Fishing Derby – the event is from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

MOTION: Stephen Bannon to approve.

SECOND: Kathy Plungis

VOTE: 7-0

Stephen requested that we add to the next agenda the remaining capital for this year. Karen noted she would contact Lauren and Joe to see what we can do as far as purchasing equipment. The dugouts at Memorial Field and the fences will be discussed at the next meeting.

3. **OLD BUSINESS:**

A. Signage – signs being up-dated at Memorial Field and Housatonic – It was decided to table it until Joe Sokul is present.

4. **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Discussion on dogs at parks – It was noted that dogs are not allowed at Lake Mansfield Beach area, Memorial Field and Olympian Meadows. They are allowed at the Housatonic Park. Tom noted that there are dog waste stations located at the cemeteries and some other parks. Tom thought dogs should be allowed at Memorial Field because it is fenced in. Pat noted that the dog officer was at the meeting last month and gave everyone his cell phone number and noted if you find problems at any of the parks where they ban dogs to call him and he will come and take care of it. He has the authority to fine people.

MOTION: Tom Norton that we look into putting dog waste receptacles at Memorial Field.

SECOND: Kathy Plungis

VOTE: 2-5 (MOTION FAILED)

B. Housatonic Village Commons – Tom said he has bid ready plans and specs for the picnic area, etc.. It was noted that \$10,000 has been appropriated to complete the projects. After discussion, it was noted that the plans for the Housatonic Park be forwarded to Joe Sokul so an RFP can be sent out.

C. Discussion/review of parking at Memorial Field/Lake Mansfield. Parking at Memorial Field needs further investigation. There was a general discussion of possibly using spaces behind Searles Castle. There will be a site visit on April 25, 2016 at 4:00 p.m. at Lake Mansfield by the Lake Mansfield Improvement Task Force.

D. Maureen Atwood re: United Way project for the installation of book houses throughout the county to encourage reading. Maureen Atwood was present to explain the request. She explained that the book houses were constructed by SABIC. 50 book houses will be distributed throughout Berkshire County. Maureen noted they would like to place the book house at the Housatonic Playground.

MOTION: Stephen Bannon to approve installing the book house at the Housatonic Playground and for Tom Norton to represent the Parks Commissioners in the placement of the book house.

SECOND: Pat Salvi

VOTE: 7-0

5. **CITIZEN SPEAK**

A. Laura Harner from Berkshire South noted that the Skate Park at Memorial Field will be staffed on May 7, 2016. Karen requested that Laura send her the list of tee shirts that they need for the staff.

6. **COMMISSIONERS SPEAK**

A. Kathy said she was disappointed about the dug outs not being painted at Memorial Field.

7. **NEXT MEETING DATE**

A. Meeting date change because of Town Meeting – After discussion the board scheduled the next meeting for May 16, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. at the Mason Library.

8. **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Carolyn Wichmann
Secretary