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RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Monday, April 1, 2019
Rye Town Hall
10 Central Road, Rye, NH
6:00 p.m.

In attendance: Cory Belden, Joe Persechino, Stephen King, Georgina Saravia
Commissioners, and Lee Arthur, Recreation Director.

Guest: Shawn Crapo, Seaside Landscaping and Leif Honda, Rye Travel
Soccer Association.

A. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

B. Roll Call

C. Approval of Minutes

- **Consideration of Previous Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2019.**

The meeting minutes of March 11, 2019 were reviewed.

Motion was made by Joe Persechino to approve the Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes of March 11, 2019. Seconded by Cory Belden. Stephen King and Georgina Saravia abstained. Motion not carried (This motion was deemed ineffective and consideration of the March 11, 2019 will take place at the next meeting of the Recreation Commission)

D. Correspondence

- **Financial Reports**

The financial reports for March were reviewed. At the end of March the Recreation General Fund Budget had \$63,477.71 expended and the Recreation Revolving Fund Budget had \$36,342.33 expended.

- **Seacoast Lacrosse Club Rye Recreation Fields Use Application**

The Seacoast Lacrosse Club Rye Recreation Fields Use Application was included in the meeting packet. It was noted that they were requested to resubmit their request using the newer application, correct the certificate of liability to list the Town of Rye and Rye

Recreation and additional insured with the address 10 Central Road, Rye, NH 03870 and submit proof of NH DES Certification for 2018 and 2019. It was noted that the application was incomplete.

- **Other**

Correspondence was received from Paula Tssetsilas requesting to post signs at the Recreation Area for the month of May advertising the Town Center Charrette. The signs would be 24"x16" with the following text: Rye Town Center Charrette, Rye Junior High, Listening Circles, May 31, 3:30-5:00 p.m. or 6:30-8:00 p.m., Readout, June 1, 3:00 p.m.

Motion was made by Joe Persechino to allow signs to be posted at the Recreation Area advertising the Town Center Charrette. Seconded by Georgina Saravia. Motion carried. (This motion was deemed ineffective and consideration of the request will be addressed at the next meeting of the Recreation Commission)

E. Old Business

- **Recreation Multi-Purpose Storage Facility Update**

The draft Design Build Contract for the Rye Recreation Storage Facility was approved by the Board of Selectmen. The performance and payment bonds were absent and will be reviewed by the Town Attorney when received. Mike Magnant was given authorization to sign the contract on the Board of Selectmen's behalf. It was noted that the storage container and overflow parking lot entrance will need to be relocated.

- **Rye Congregational Church Space Update**

A draft lease has been forwarded to the Rye Congregational Church Building Committee Chairperson. When it is returned it will be forwarded to Gregg Mikolaities for review, then the terms of the lease including cost can be negotiated. Once the lease is secured the program planning will be solidified.

- **Rec Trac and Web Trac Update**

The Rec Trac and Web Trac Training is complete. However, the site set-up still needs some work before going live. When completed individuals will be able to register for the After School Program online and the option for the monthly bill to be e-mailed will be available.

- **2019-2020 Rye After School Program MOU**

Brett Mulvey and Todd Cronin were not present to report.

F. New Business

- **Rye Recreation Field Use Representatives**

Rye Little League, Rye Travel Soccer Association and Seacoast Lacrosse were invited to the meeting. Leif Honda of the Rye Travel Soccer Association was the only invitee in attendance. It was noted that the Turf Management and Mowing Program RFP has been advertised and the deadline for submissions was April 11, 2019.

Shawn Crapo from Seaside Landscaping was present and indicated that both fields are not ready for use and that each field could benefit from a dethatching. It was noted that

Rye Little League is responsible for the turf maintenance cost of the baseball fields and that last year Rye Recreation took over the responsibility and cost involved with mowing those fields. It was noted that because of weather conditions (excessive heat) there was a lot of crab grass on the fields last year.

It was discussed that at the last meeting Todd Cronin had questioned the number of contractors used last year. It was noted that the town has one contractor that is responsible for the overall management of both the Turf Management and Mowing Program and is allowed to sub-contract services. Shawn Crapo pointed out that Elwyn Park Landscaping was the mowing sub-contractor. No other contract was used other than one who was hired to dispose of the grass clipping off site. It was noted that not all of their trucks are labeled and that may have led to the misperception.

Lee Arthur asked Stephen King to assist her by acting as the Rye Recreation Turf Contact and he accepted. It was noted that if any of the organizations that utilize the fields have a question or concern, the process is that they are to contact Rye Recreation/Stephen King and then the contractor responsible for the overall management would be contacted. The user groups do not deal directly with the contractors acquired by the Town of Rye.

It was discussed that little league wanted additional mows to the Ralph Morang Field last year. However, there are not enough funds to cut that field twice a week. It was noted that little league does not pay a fee for field usage. Because they had contributed to the area (mowing, clean-up and turf maintenance).

Shawn Crapo mentioned that double cuts on the Ralph Morang Field could cause burn out. There will be no irrigation until the storage facility is completed. The use of Lang Corner Field, the field behind Rye Elementary School, and the field at the elementary school in New Castle was discussed.

Cory Belden asked if the proposal should be changed. Shawn Crapo indicated that products could be combined but the time to fertilize may not be the time to apply grub control and the separation of products works best.

Leif Honda of Rye Travel Soccer indicated that they would contribute to more emergent applications if needed to assist with the field quality. It was noted that the town allocates sufficient funds for average quality fields. However, if organizations want to increase the quality they will need to contribute. It was discussed that it is difficult to repair and over seed the fields because of timing and usage. It was noted that if Rye Travel Soccer wants to add an application or Rye Little League wants additional mows that it was fine. However, they would have to use the Town of Rye contractor and pay for the service. In the future the usage fee could also be increased accommodate request.

Shawn Crapo mentioned that there is a product “moisture manager” that helps hold moisture in the ground. Joe Persechino suggested putting the RFP out earlier. Lee Arthur indicated that it could be sent out earlier. But she has always put it out after town vote in the event that the budget did not pass. Shawn Crapo discussed the option of having a three year contract or option to renew up to three years.

Leif Honda mentioned that he has been asking groups using the fields to take the goals off the fields to assist with field maintenance. Lee Arthur indicated that the nets do need to be secured in place at all times due to safety concerns (staked/sand bags).

The Seacoast Lacrosse Club Rye Recreation Fields Use Application was included in the meeting packet. It was noted that they were requested to resubmit their request using the newer application, correct the certificate of liability to list the Town of Rye and Rye Recreation and additional insured with the address 10 Central Road, Rye, NH 03870 and submit proof of NH DES Certification for 2018 and 2019. It was noted that the application was incomplete and would not be approved until the information requested is received. They are requesting use of the big field from March 26 - June 14, 2019, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. It was noted that days requested need to be clarified.

Leif Honda indicated that Rye Travel Soccer also wanted to use the big field in the spring they are offering a pilot program for ninth graders and he would coordinate with lacrosse. It was reinforced that organized groups utilizing the fields need to apply for usage and meet the necessary requirements. It was noted that Stephen King is the Rye Recreation Turf Czar.

- **Eagle Scout Project**

Skyler Mikolaities, Portsmouth Troop 164 will be proposing a project at the Recreation Area (a new kiosk, new signs and trail maintenance). He will be requested to attend a future meeting of the Recreation Commission.

- **Program Updates**

Rye Art in Bloom will be held April 12 and 13, 2019. Spring and Summer Registrations are being received.

G. Adjournment

*Motion was made by to Stephen King adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m.
Seconded by Joe Persechino. Motion carried.*

**These are draft minutes. Please refer to the minutes of the next meeting for approvals/corrections.*