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RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 4, 2019

Rye Town Hall

10 Central Road, Rye, NH

6:00 p.m.

In attendance: Gregg Mikolaities, Chairman; Cory Belden, Stephen King, Brett Mulvey, Joe Persechino (arrived at 6:13 p.m.), Todd Cronin (arrived at 6:30 p.m.), Commissioners, and Lee Arthur, Recreation Director.

Guests: Doug Abrams, Howard Kalet, and Susan Shapiro.

I. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

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

II. Roll Call

Motion was made by Stephen King to take under New Business: Howard Kalet, Telecommunications Infrastructure Committee to discuss potential cell phone tower locations at the Rye Recreation Area out of order. Seconded by Brett Mulvey. Motion Carried.

III. New Business

Howard Kalet, Telecommunications Infrastructure Committee to discuss potential cell phone tower locations at the Rye Recreation Area

Howard Kalet, Chairman of the Telecommunications Infrastructure Committee indicated that the committee was recently formed and charged by the Board of Selectmen to work with a consultant to locate potential sites for cell phone towers in Rye. He showed the Recreation Commission a map that showed the current cell phone coverage. Then he showed a map including sites that are currently being considered in the future (Recreation Road, Abenaki Golf Course, Sagamore Road, and Port Way). One of the potential locations the committee is looking at is the Rye Recreation Area. Howard Kalet asked the Recreation Commission to consider the installation of a cell phone tower in the vicinity of the overflow parking area. The tower would require a 50x50 foot fenced off area of space and an access road for a once a month visit by a technician. The Town of Rye would receive funds from the initial lease and have the ability to make more money if other carriers added their equipment to the tower.

The Recreation Commission has oversight of the Recreation Area and Gregg Mikolaities asked for the commissioners input. Joe Persechino indicated that he is concerned that the visibility of the tower may affect people using the Recreation Area. Cory Belden and Stephen King indicated that they do not want to give up space that could be used for recreation purposes and had concerns in regards to the aesthetics of the area. Lee Arthur also expressed concern about giving up land that may be needed for current and future uses. Susan Shapiro, Rye resident who lives on Recreation Road and abuts the Recreation Area, expressed concern about parking issues. Specifically, she is concerned about any loss of current parking spaces because the current amount is already insufficient. She also was concerned about conservation issues and the Town Forest. Doug Abrams another Rye resident who lives on Recreation Road and abuts the Recreation Area expressed extreme concern about building a cell phone tower in the Recreation Area and in close proximity to his house.

Howard Kalet told the Recreation Commission he would like them to tell his committee where on the recreation area property they could potentially put a tower. There was a discussion on the cell phone service. Lee Arthur asked whether Town Counsel had determined the land requested could legally be used for a cell tower, and Howard Kalet said they were currently in the process of doing that. He said that their committee needs to report back to the Selectmen on Monday, November 11, 2019. Joe Persechino expressed the desire for more specific information from the Telecommunications Infrastructure Committee. The discussion continued and the Recreation Commission as a whole expressed their opposition to placing a cell phone tower in the Recreation Area gravel parking lot.

Motion was made by Stephen King to take a vote of the Recreation Commission on whether to allow a 100 foot cell phone tower to be installed in the Recreation Area gravel parking lot. Seconded by Brett Mulvey. Roll call vote: Cory Belden, no; Stephen King, no; Gregg Mikolaities, no; Brett Mulvey, no; Joe Persechino, no; and Todd Cronin, abstained. Motion failed.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Brett Mulvey to approve the Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes of Monday September 30, 2019. Seconded by Stephen King. Motion carried.

V. Correspondence Financial Reports

Lee Arthur, Recreation Director indicated that she had not received the October financial reports.

VI. Old Business Recreation Multi-Purpose Storage Facility Update

Gregg Mikolaities explained he, along with Corey Belden, Lee Arthur, and Stephen King met with the builder on Thursday, October 31, 2019 and it is anticipated the project will be completed in the next couple weeks. He indicated that he would like to have a formal

ribbon cutting ceremony. Cory Belden expressed his desire for some form of landscaping day to involve the community in beautifying the area around the building.

Recreation Congregational Church Space Update

Lee Arthur and Gregg Mikolaities met with the subcommittee from the church to discuss the lease. Gregg Mikolaities indicated that the church representatives thought Rye Recreation would use the middle school space from 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. every day during the school year, and couldn't use it any other time. The gym was not part of the lease and the rent of \$800 was in addition to the fees charged to use other areas of the building (kitchen etc.). The lease was reviewed and revised. The lease is for two rooms on the second and two rooms on the third floor, from 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m., Monday to Friday, with an option to renew. The gym can be used if it is booked. The senior programming would be primarily between 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. and middle school program from 3:00-6:00 p.m.

2020 Budget Update

Lee Arthur and Gregg Mikolaities met with the Board of Selectmen on Friday, November 1, 2019 and the Recreation Budget was approved minus \$1900.00 for property maintenance. The next step is to present the Recreation Budget to the Budget Committee on November 7, 2019. Included in the Recreation Budget are funds to hire an employee for 32 hours a week, no benefits, to primarily operate the programming at the church.

Other

E-mail from Corey Belden

The Recreation Area was surveyed but it does not include the new building because it was done prior to the building being built. It was discussed that the building should be added and to ensure that the Recreation Area and Town Forest Area is defined.

VII. New Business

Program Updates

The Recreation Commissioners reviewed the Afterschool Program Newsletter.

Lee Arthur reported that the Recreational Basketball Program currently has 11 kindergarten participants enrolled; 40 grades 1-2 participants; 4 grade 3-4 girls and 19 grade 3-4 boys. Two more coaches are needed for grades 1-2 and one or two more for grades 3-4.

VIII. Adjournment

*Motion was made by Brett Mulvey to adjourn the meeting at 7:36 p.m.
Seconded by Joe Persechino. Motion carried.*

The next Recreation Commission Meeting is Thursday, December 5, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. location to be determined.

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