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RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, April 12, 2017

6:00 p.m.: Site Walk at the Recreation Area, 55 Recreation Road, Rye, NH

6:30 p.m.: Reconvene at Rye Town Hall Court Room, 10 Central Road, Rye, NH

In attendance: Cory Belden, Gregg Mikolaities, Brett Mulvey, Judy Scott, Commissioners, and Lee Arthur, Recreation Director.

Guests: Joe Persechino, 88 Alehson Street, Rye, NH

6:00 p.m.: Site Walk at the Recreation Area, 55 Recreation Road, Rye, NH

- **Recreation Area Improvements (Drainage, Guardrail, and Fencing)**

Cory Belden showed the commissioners the area of the Ralph Morang Multi-purpose Field that was retaining water. Gregg Mikolaities provided a history of when the fields were reconditioned. He asked if the town could provide use of the backhoe. Cory Belden explained where the drain would be located and is preparing a drainage plan. Lee Arthur indicated that she needs the plan and specifications in order to solicit request for proposals. Gregg Mikolaities requested Lee Arthur to provide Cory Belden with the specifications that were utilized for the overflow parking area.

Brett Mulvey mentioned a request from Ray Hindle to install a moveable mound on the Ralph Morang Multi-purpose Field in order to accommodate the Junior High Baseball Program. Gregg Mikolaities pointed out that when the field was reconditioned it was requested that it be a Little League Field and that there had been a number of issues with adult softball so the change was made.

Lee Arthur pointed out the existing fence around the pond and the area for the proposed guardrail. It was determined that a wood guardrail would be installed from the utility pole by the entrance side of the pond to the tree towards the parking lot. It was discussed that there should be no barrier fence behind the guardrail, because there would be a fence installed on the opposite side of the road. On the side of the Flash Jenness Memorial Little League Field a black vinyl fence matching the height of the existing field will be installed the length of the field, from the outfield and terminate at the driveway. A gate will be placed where the existing gate is to the field. Lee Arthur was directed is to review the plan with the town's insurance provider.

Motion was made by Brett Mulvey at 6:25 p.m. to suspend the meeting and reconvene at Town Hall. Seconded by Cory Belden. Motion carried.

6:30 p.m.: Reconvene at Rye Town Hall Court Room, 10 Central Road, Rye, NH

A. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting was reconvened at 6:38 p.m.

B. Roll Call

C. Approval of Minutes

- It was discussed that a chairman and vice-chairman need to be determined.

Motion was made by Cory Belden to approve Gregg Mikolaities as Rye Recreation Commission Chairman for 2017. Seconded by Brett Mulvey. Motion carried. Gregg Mikolaities abstained.

Motion was made by Brett Mulvey to approve Cory Belden as Rye Recreation Commission Vice-Chairman for 2017. Seconded by Judy Scott. Motion carried. Cory Belden abstained.

- **Consideration of Previous Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2017 and March 8, 2017**
The meeting minutes of February 8, 2017 were reviewed.

Motion was made by Cory Belden to approve the Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes of February 8, 2017 as presented. Seconded by Brett Mulvey. Motion carried.

The meeting minutes of March 8, 2017 were reviewed. It was discussed that there was not a quorum and as a result no decisions were made.

Motion was made by Cory Belden to approve the Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes of March 8, 2017 as presented. Seconded by Judy Scott. Motion carried.

D. Correspondence

- **Financial Reports**

The financial reports for March, 2017 were reviewed. At the end of March the Recreation General Fund Budget had 80.38% remaining and the Recreation Revolving Fund Budget had 82.42% remaining. The capital outlay had \$15,000 allocated and 100% remaining and it was discussed that it is for a guardrail and fence at the Recreation Area. The Youth Athletics Account is funding the improvements to the drainage of the Ralph Morang Multi-purpose Field and \$17,500 was allocated. It was pointed out that the Rye Recreation has been self-funding its capital items.

- **Other**

Included in the meeting packet was a memo from Michael Magnant to the Board of Selectmen discussing the history of the Outer Marker Property and proposing the future use of the area as a public park. Lee Arthur indicated that she met with Michael

Magnant, Dennis McCarthy and Cyndi Gillespie to discuss the use of the property and everyone was in agreement with utilizing the area as a public park.

Gregg Mikolaities noted that the location of the site was Harbor Road and pointed out that the Recreation Commission has never found a suitable use for the property, although tennis courts and storage had been discussed. The parcel is small and there is no bathroom on site, which makes it difficult for programs. Rye Recreation has been asked to provide a picnic table for the area.

Motion was made by Gregg Mikolaities that the Recreation Commission agrees to donate a picnic table to the Outer Marker Park. Seconded by Judy Scott. Motion carried.

E. Old Business

- **2017 Youth Skills Camps Operating in New Hampshire (Rye Recreation Certification)**

Included in the meeting packet was an updated list of organizations that have NHDES Youth Skill Camps Certification. It was noted that Rye Recreation and Seacoast Lacrosse Club are on the list.

- **Seacoast Lacrosse Recreation Fields Use Application**

Lee Arthur indicated that at the last Recreation Commission Meeting all the groups that utilize the recreation area were invited to submit their applications and go over the rules and regulations of use. It was noted that Seacoast Lacrosse was the only organization represented and they did submit their application form for field use and all requirements were met. However, there was no quorum; therefore, no vote was taken.

Motion was made by Brett Mulvey to approve the Seacoast Lacrosse Recreation Fields Use Application. Seconded by Cory Belden. Motion carried.

Gregg Mikolaities asked if they had paid the fee and it was noted that they had.

- **Letter from Joseph Persechino requesting to serve on the Recreation Commission**

It was discussed that at the last Recreation Commission Meeting there was no quorum. Therefore, no decision could be made in regard to vacancies. Joseph Persechino has submitted a letter requesting to serve on the Recreation Commission. It was noted that Stacey Brooks and Janet Stevens need to indicate in writing to the Board of Selectmen that they will not be seeking to renew their term. Gregg Mikolaities indicated that he would speak with Janet Stevens again.

Gregg Mikolaities asked Joe Persechino to tell the commissioners a little bit about himself. Joe Persechino indicated that his wife and two children moved to Rye a couple of years ago and are active in the recreation programs. He has coached Little League and basketball and is very active himself in regard to outdoor recreation. Joe has a background working with town boards and commissions as he is a civil engineer. Gregg

Mikolaities indicated that he has worked with Joe Persechino for over fifteen years and would recommend him to the Recreation Commission.

Motion is made by Gregg Mikolaities to recommend Joseph Persechino to the Board of Selectmen, pending receipt of correspondence from either Janet Stevens or Stacey Brooks indicating that they will not be seeking to renew their position on the Recreation Commission. Seconded by Judy Scott. Motion carried.

- **Recreation Warrant Article**

It was noted that the Recreation Warrant Article did not pass by approximately 100 votes. Lee Arthur indicated that there is still a storage issue and sought direction on where to place a storage container. It was discussed that it needs to be placed close to the modular and recreation house. Different locations were ruled out due to lack of access. Gregg Mikolaities suggested placing it on the left of the road as you enter the parking lot.

Motion was made by Gregg Mikolaities to approve Lee Arthur to enter an agreement to lease a storage container for one year. Seconded by Cory Belden. Motion carried.

- **Recreation Area Improvements (Drainage, Guardrail, and Fencing)**

Gregg Mikolaities suggested that the commission review their previous discussion that they had while on the site walk for the public watching the meeting.

Cory Belden is working on a drainage plan for the Ralph Morang Multi-purpose Field. Lee Arthur indicated that she needs a plan and specifications in order to solicit a request for proposals. Gregg Mikolaities requested Lee Arthur provide Cory Belden with the specifications that were utilized for the overflow parking area.

Motion was made by Gregg Mikolaities to authorize Lee Arthur and Cory Belden to solicit proposals for drainage improvements to the Ralph Morang Multi-purpose Field. Seconded by Judy Scott. Motion carried.

On the side of the Flash Jenness Memorial Little League Field a black vinyl fence matching the height of the existing fence will be installed the length of the field, from the outfield and terminate at the driveway. A gate will be placed where the existing gate is to the field.

A wood guardrail would be installed from the utility pole/tree on the entrance side of the pond to the tree towards the parking lot. Lee Arthur is to review the plan with the town's insurance provider.

- **Other**

- **Rye Little League Recreation Fields Use Application**

Lee Arthur noted that Rye Little League's application was received on April 11, 2017 and that everything is included except for proof of NHDES Certification of Background

Checks because their application was just mailed yesterday.

It was noted that Seaside Landscaping has evaluated the fields and neither field is ready for play.

Motion was made by Judy Scott to approve Rye Little Leagues Recreation Fields Use Application. Seconded by Brett Mulvey. Motion carried.

Lee Arthur indicated that Ray Hindle has suggested making the Ralph Morang Multi-purpose Baseball Field adaptable for the Junior High Baseball Program by installing a moveable mound and Little League would cover the cost. Judy Scott posed the question as to why would the Recreation Commission change a recreation field to a Rye Junior High Field and that it should be a School Board issue. Gregg Mikolaities suggested that Little League put the money into the Lang's Corner Field. Brett Mulvey indicated that it would be nice to know what their conversations were with the schools. He also noted that there is an interest in adult softball and that if it does not affect anyone, the concept could have a lot of wins.

Gregg Mikolaities mentioned that when the field was rebuilt it was under the premise that it would not be a softball field. It is a multi-purpose field and that it would create a safety hazard if balls are hit on to the main athletic field when lacrosse is going on. It was discussed that as it stands, the field is pretty booked. Lee Arthur said that she would mention to Ray Hindle that his request was discussed and if Little League wants to pursue it further, they should come to a Recreation Commission Meeting with a plan.

The impact of the warrant article vote was discussed again. Brett Mulvey suggested that the first thing that needs to be figured out is if there is a need for two schools. If there was one school, Rye Recreation and the Town Hall could be housed at Rye Junior High. It would be a great spot and save the town money. If a two-bay garage was placed at the Recreation Area it would be used even if Rye Recreation was housed at Rye Junior High in the future. Lee Arthur indicated that minimal funds have been put into the recreation area structures and they need to be improved. Gregg Mikolaities agreed that the Junior High would be a good option for a community center. Judy Scott noted that the only thing is that the school population goes in cycles. Gregg Mikolaities pointed out that Rye Elementary School was designed to be able to expand.

There was a discussion about the prior plans for the snack shack which included storage space and if it was decided to build a garage it would need to be placed on next year's warrant, even if the funds were being expended from the revolving account. Gregg Mikolaities requested Lee Arthur to identify the funds available.

F. New Business

- **Turf Management and Mowing Program: Rye Recreation Area RFP's**
The Recreation Commission was provided the RFP's received as well as a chart comparing each proposal regarding application/mowing, product and price. It was pointed out that although there is a schedule of values, each contractor's proposal may

differ in terms of the label (product composition). The turf management program was recommended by the University of New Hampshire. Gregg Mikolaities pointed out Green Grass Lawn Care was \$250 less than Seaside Landscaping. It was pointed out that they both used the same broadleaf weed control; however, a different dimension product. Green Grass Lawn Care proposed a combo product (not requested) that had .10% Dithiopyre and Seasides proposed a standalone product (requested) with .15% Dithiopyre. It was discussed that to have exact price comparisons, the product label and manufacture would need to be provided. It was noted that it was a request for proposal and not the same process as a bid.

Brett Mulvey pointed out that if Seaside Landscaping switched to the same dimension and crosscheck product as Green Grass Lawn Care that would put them at the same price because that equates to \$250 less.

Gregg Mikolaities asked how Seaside Landscaping performed last year. It was noted that they were excellent. Gregg Mikolaities indicated that he would be inclined to go with Seaside Landscaping for \$250 more because he more closely meets the specifications, local and done a good job.

It was noted again that it was a request for proposal not a bid and that on the RFP the following was written:

“The Town of Rye reserves the right to reject any and all proposals or to accept any proposal. The Town also reserves the right to negotiate terms associated with any proposal. The Town of Rye will accept the proposal that it deems is in the best interest.”

“Contractor must be fully insured including workers compensation and provide a certificate of insurance indicating the Town of Rye as additional insured with their proposal. Contractor must have a New Hampshire Pesticide Control License. The Town of Rye is seeking one contractor that can provide both the Turf Management and Mowing Program and not subcontract services. Contractors must fill out the schedule of values completely.”

“Fertilization: Three individual granular applications of a “bridge” fertilizer (50% organic and 50% synthetic) providing at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of a pound of nitrogen per application. To be applied once in the spring, once early summer and once in the fall. Weed Control: Two individual liquid applications of a broadleaf weed control containing 2, 4-D (Example: Lesco 3-Way).”

The schedule of values request individual applications not combo products, so that not too much of one product is used. Lee Arthur indicated that she reached out to Green Grass Lawn Care and asked them if the proposed insect control product containing bifenthrin is granular, if the merit product is a stand-alone product and in regards to the dimension product it looks like a combo product with nitrogen and will that go over the amount of nitrogen specified. He responded that the merit is a stand-alone product and as far as he knows, there isn't a dimension granular that is a stand-alone.

Brett Mulvey indicated that he is in favor with going with Seaside Landscaping who is essentially the same price and who we have had good service from. Cory Belden also recommended going with Seaside Landscaping.

It was pointed out that the specifications were made by UNH a couple years ago and have been adjusted. Gregg Mikolaities said that it is time to get yearly soil samples and an updated the specifications. Mowing begins May 2 and ends October 10, 2017. Gregg Mikolaities pointed out that Seaside Landscaping is the incumbent and have provided other services at no charge and he agrees with Brett and Cory. Gregg Mikolaities direction was to negotiate with Seaside Landscaping for not more than \$8,230 pending an updated specification from UNH. Cory Belden suggested making the recommendation to the Board of Selectmen for Seaside Landscaping and in the meantime begins the process of getting soil samples. If there is a recommendation to change products then have the vendor work within the contracted amount. Gregg Mikolaities supports Seaside Landscaping because they are the existing contractor, have done a good job and are a local business.

Motion made by Cory Belden to recommend Seaside Landscaping for the 2017 Mowing Program Turf Management based on their proposal of \$8230.00 as the incumbent they have done an excellent job managing the fields and are a local business. Seconded By Judy Scott. Motion carried.

- **Program Updates**

Lee Arthur pointed out that there is an Active, Alive and Over 55 Luncheon tomorrow and the program is White Mountain Travel and that summer sign-ups are coming along. Judy Scott asked what Mike Macdonald was offering at the last meeting. Lee Arthur indicated that he had an old storage container that he was offering to donate and that she will pursue it further. Gregg Mikolaities said that he would talk to Dennis McCarthy about removing the fence around the pond and who is responsible for paving the road.

There was a discussion about moving the Recreation Commission Meetings to the first Monday of each month instead of the second Wednesday. It was agreed that the meetings would be held on the first Monday of each month and the third Monday when there is a holiday, with no meeting in August.

G. Adjournment

Motion was made by Judy Scott to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. Seconded by Brett Mulvey. Motion carried.