



Park and Recreation Commission
Town Hall, 126 Main St.
Ware, Massachusetts 01082-1386

Minutes of the Park Commission Meeting

Date: April 5 2021
Place: Town Hall
Present: Bill Imbier, Kim Swarts, John Carroll (via ZOOM), John Piechota, Stuart Beckley

The meeting commenced at 6:30 pm.

Concerns of Citizens

The incident of the dog attack reported last month continued. Lori Brooke filed a report to Sydney, the dog warden. Lori was injured, but didn't want to pursue anything. Since the dogs were on leashes, it is now a Civil Matter and the Town is not responsible. Due to the attack, Laura was given a no trespass order and has not be able to use the Park. There was continued discussion.

Bill Imbier: Motion to rescind the no trespass order and allow Lori Brooke to use the Park without her dogs. She may have one dog, as long as it is on a six foot leash and has a basket muzzle.

Kim Swarts: Second
All were in favor.

Field Scheduling

Mark Courtney represented Ware Youth Soccer. He requested use of Memorial Field for boys and girls under 11 beginning April 24 through the end of June. The younger players will use the bandstand area. There was a discussion of the latest COVID-19 requirements pertaining to limiting of the number of players, coaches and spectators. Mark will comply with all requirements.

Heather Malin represented Ware Girls Softball. She is still working on signups and plans to begin the season on May 8th and be done by the end of June. All COVID-19 requirements will be followed. CORI checks will be completed. She may only need the first diamond. John suggested that in order not to conflict with the Soccer Program, she should consider using the 2nd diamond.

Bill Imbier: Motion to refund/waive user fees, if teams are not able to play.

Kim Swarts: Second
All were in favor.

Kim Swarts: Motion to allow Girls Softball to use funds for t-shirts and equipment, not to exceed \$600.00

Bill Imbier: Second
All were in favor.

Grant Update

The underground area will be explored for the drainage system project. The design will be completed by June 1st and go out to bid. The project should be completed by the Fall. The Town will provide \$2,600 for the project.

Kubinski Field Lights

A light pole has snapped. A whole pole should be installed for safety. Carl LaGrant suggested to take the pole down and not replace it. Other poles are in bad shape. Carl can cap off the electricity. An electric company would need to take a look at the lights.

Rules and Regulations

Nothing new to report. The review of the rules and regulations needs to be started.

Dog Park Contractor

There has been nothing new since the last meeting. The Contractor plans on coming back to fix what needs to be done. Workshop 13 has obtained some funds to do some art work on a mural on the back wall. New mulch will need to be placed on the back slope.

Updates from John Piechota

Kubinski Field gate

Water Dept. has installed a gate at the top of Barnes Street to keep vehicles from driving down to the pumping station area.

Vendor

The Vendor who sells hot dogs at the Big Y parking lot, would like to capitalize on events at the Park. The Commissioners agreed that although the Vendor meets all of the health requirements, COVID requirements limits the number of people in the area. Perhaps in the future.

Yoga

Barb Newton is planning on using the Bandstand area for yoga classes beginning at the end of June or early July. Soccer and Girls Softball will be over by then.

Fireworks and concerts are going forward for now. The fireworks will be held June 26 with a rain date of June 27th.

Funding for the new park truck passed at the Town Meeting. John will be ordering a 2022 Ford truck.

John shared a letter from a resident who is concerned that the Park's back roads are not yet open. The Commissioners agreed to let John respond to the letter writer and provide the reasons why the roads are not yet open. However John is close to opening up the back in order to put in the fishing ramps and for the restocking vehicle to come and restock the fish.

The Commissioners would like to have the Pool opened this summer. Bill would like to pursue getting people to work. John expressed his concerns regarding maximum numbers allowed at the pool due to COVID.

There was a discussion regarding the playground project in Grenville Park. It was suggested to approach/invite representatives of a couple of banks to see if they would be interested in donating to the project. John Carroll said he would contact Brookfield Bank.

John Carroll mentioned the need to unclog the leaves at the river for better flow of the water. Stuart reported that the Army Corps of Engineers will be coming to Ware to look at the dike system. He will ask them to look at the Park River as well.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Next meeting will be May 3rd at the Town Hall

Nancy Dunn, Secretary