



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

Minutes of the Park Commission Meeting

Date: May 3, 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

Dan Orzulak attended the meeting to get the Park Commission blessing for a summer basketball clinic. He will follow all of the current COVID guidelines.

SWARTS: Motion to permit Dan Orzulak to hold a summer basketball clinic the last two weeks in June and the first two in July from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm.
IMBIER: Second
All were in favor

Kevin O'Regan from Behavioral Health Network attended the meeting to start a conversation about starting a program or a center for kids to go. It would include athletics, art and other activities, i.e. games, etc. He asked if anyone from the Commission would be able to attend a ZOOM meeting on May 21st. John Piechota and Bill Imbier volunteered to be a part of the meeting.

Heather Malin attended the meeting to advise the Commission that she will be turning over her position as head of the Girls Softball Program to Amy Alders. Heather asked about current COVID guidelines. Stuart advised that as of today, masks are required for players, but not spectators and congregating and socializing after a game is ill-advised. Heather reported she has some expenses:

IMBIER: Motion to permit Girls' Softball to spend up to \$1000.00 for umpire fees, ice packs, face masks and 3 helmets.
SWARTS: Second
All were in favor.

Liza DiMarzio from Workshop 13 attended the meeting to discuss the event planned last year, but canceled due to the COVID pandemic. There will be no vendors on the grass, just food trucks. The beer guy will use the tennis courts. There will be two bands and a 50/50 raffle.

Attendance will be free this year, since Workshop 13 received some grant money. There was a discussion regarding parking. She will need to contact the police department regarding emergency issues. COVID guidelines will be followed, but more will be known by August 1st.

IMBIER: Motion to allow Workshop 13 to utilize Grenville Park on August 28 from 4:00 pm to 10:00 pm for a concert and following COVID requirements.
SWARTS: Second
All were in favor.

Liza DiMarzio also provided information regarding the mural to be drawn on the Dog Park wall. They have received a total of \$8,000 for the mural, \$3,500 from a grant.

Dog Park

John met with the contractor.

- fixed water bubbler
- reinstalled benches
- fountain is working
- loam installed
- pea gravel installed

John mentioned that 15 – 20 yards of mulch will be needed to be put back on the hill. He is concerned about the back hill. It is getting abused by dogs, kids with bikes. There was a discussion of what else could be used. Maybe pet friendly shrubs. Fencing off the area would be expensive. There was some discussion as to who is responsible for the Dog Park. John advised it is not up to the Park for day to day operations. Stuart suggested talking to Stanton and ask them as part of their design plan to look at maintenance support.

Stuart also suggested the need to meet with the "Friends of the Dog Park" to discuss ongoing expenses and fund raising. Also suggested was to apply for a grant from Cure leaf.

Grant Update

John hasn't heard anything back regarding the design.

Kubinski Field Lights

A new water commission board is suggesting to close Kubinski Field, since there will be a new water filtration system. It's the Town's water supply and parking of cars is an issue. Stuart suggested to have a conversation with the DPW and the Selectmen to determine if and why the field would be closed. The field has a history for the Town.

Updates from John Piechota

An individual has asked about putting up a drop box for books at Grenville Park. John will ask her to wait for a couple of months in order to get some COVID guidelines on book cleaning.

Soccer has started with games at Memorial Field and the Park. The High School will start Boys' Varsity Baseball on May 8th. John is waiting for the High School for plans about cleaning the bathrooms.

Parking in front of the fire hydrant at Opalinski's could be an issue.

Nothing has been heard from Xavier regarding the pool.

Bill is hearing from people in Town regarding the need to fix the Beauregard Playground. Since

it is such need of repair, John Piechota feels it should be taken down. It was suggested to work with Dave Powers about asking for donations from 3 banks or obtain a grant for the playground at Grenville Park. Stuart suggested talking to O'Brien, a large playground builder, to get some prices.

There begin no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Next meeting will be June 7 at Grenville Park Pavilion.

Nancy Dunn, Secretary