

Oak Bluffs Park Commissioners Minutes

October 20, 2008

Members present: Richard Combra, JR, Allan deBettencourt and Nancy Phillips

Meeting opened at 5:05 PM

Ocean Park – DEP non-compliance notice

Commissioners reviewed letter regarding the leeching beds in Ocean Park.

Commissioner Phillips said she spoken with Wastewater Manager Joe Alosso and requested that he attend their next meeting to discuss the issue. He told her that preliminary he would like to close down the leeching fields in Ocean Park and use the Leonardo property which is being cleared.

Commissioner deBettencourt said that Joe was not involved in the beginning of the project.

Commissioner Combra said that the only thing that pertains to the Parks Commission is to turn off the irrigation system which when they got the notice of non-compliance it was already turned off. He added that the notice was sent to the Board of Selectmen office not to the Parks Commission.

Commissioners agreed that it was a Wastewater Department issue and it was up to them to fix it but they wanted to be kept informed.

Bandstand

Commissioner Phillips said she met with the Historic Commission and showed them the drawings of the Bandstand; they had her complete the preliminary form and they agreed to have a public hearing on November 12th at 5:15 PM at the Town Hall.

She wanted Chuck Sullivan to attend their next meeting so they can figure out how much he is owed for his work on the project. She said that the roof and cupola have not been evaluated by either Chuck or the Building Inspector. She also mentioned the satellite dish and antenna that have been placed on the Bandstand.

Commissioner Combra said that the IT Manager Travis Larsen put them up there and on top of information booth in Farland Square.

Commissioner Phillips felt it was a lack of respect to the historic buildings; holes were drilled into the bandstand and photographers are also upset about it. She said that Selectman Ron D'Orio advised her to speak with Travis about it as they were trying to get the wireless signal to reach the Island Inn.

Commissioners agreed that it should be removed and put somewhere else; Commissioner Combra said he would talk with Travis.

Commissioner Philips said they still need to come up with a wooden door design; try to find out what the original post color was; whether ceiling was open and the best acoustic plan.

Commissioners agreed that Commissioner Phillips would contact an acoustic engineer to discuss the ceiling options.

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Commissioner Phillips did say that the Historic Commission did not want to see Christmas lights on the Bandstand year round.

She advised that she spoke with the Building Inspector about the handicap access and he said they would need a variance if they didn't do the lift and ADA does not accept little seats going up the stairs. He told her that in NYC they use the lifts to bring items below ground or an outside stairway wrapped around which she was sure the Historic Commission would not approve.

Commissioner Combra will talk with Chuck Sullivan regarding his fees and handicap access including the possibility of using an outside portable lift. It was suggested to take out the inside stairs and just have the lift to get people up and down.

CPA

Commissioner Phillips advised that there were 17 applications for CPA money; two from Parks Department – one with BOH & Historic Commission and Niantic Park with just the Park Dept.

She was hoping to use the money from the Festival Network to get the western corner of Niantic Park surveyed.

Commissioner Combra suggested paying Sourati out of the revolving fund & other charges and when the money comes from the Festival Network it could go back into the revolving fund.

Commissioner Phillips and Combra thought that it might be approved over a number of years.

Commissioner Phillips said that maybe they could get the money for the new baseball field back in order to use it for Niantic Park.

Commissioner Combra said he wouldn't be in favor of that as Little League has put a lot of effort into getting another field. He added that it has gone through the MVC and two Town meetings plus the land is currently being cleared.

Commissioner Phillips felt that they could ask the Farm Neck foundation for money to help fund playground equipment for 5-12 year olds. She said she asked Paul Manzi about the Town's non-profit status as she wants people to be able donate money for the Park Department.

Commissioner Combra said to contact the IT Manager about putting a "project needs list" on the Town's website.

Previous Minutes

Commissioners requested minutes of May 19th, June 9th & June 23rd to be reviewed again before voting on them. The July 7th minutes need the questionnaire to be attached.

Motion: To approve the minutes of 6/18/07, 7/7/08 with changes & attached questions, 7/21/08 with changes, 8/18/08 with changes and 9/8/08 as written. By: Commissioner Combra. Second: Commissioner Phillips. Motion was unanimously passed 3-0.

Seaview waterfront

Commissioner Phillips wanted to know how much has been spent on engineering so far and why more money was needed.

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Commissioner deBettencourt said that they are not on the same page as the Conservation Commission.

Commissioner Combra said he would ask at the October 28th Board of Selectmen meeting for an update on how much money has been spent and where it stands as the Park Commission has not been kept in the loop.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole L Morey
Office Administrator