

Oak Bluffs Park Commissioners Minutes

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April 5, 2010

Members present: Nancy Phillips & Richard Combra, JR

Others present: James Tripp (Park Foreman), Mark Crossland (Resident), Gail Barmakian (Wastewater)

Minutes Approved: March 15, 2010 as amended

Special Event Requests

Commissioners reviewed application from Greg Orcutt to use Sunset Lake Park for a fund raiser for the MV Animal Shelter.

Motion: Approve application with stipulation that no tents be used but allow an umbrella. By: Commissioner Combra. Second: Commissioner Phillips. Motion Passed.

Commissioners reviewed application from Faith Community Church to use Ocean Park on Wednesdays beginning July 7, 2010 from 7:00 – 8:30 PM. May include amplifiers and expect up to 50 people.

Commissioner Combra was concerned that approving it might lead to other groups requesting to use Ocean Park on other nights and becoming over used by groups. He felt it might set a precedent if formally approved.

Commissioner Phillips wanted to get advice from the Town Administrator and/or Board of Selectmen.

Commissioner Combra added that they could also discuss with Town Counsel.

Mark Crossland expressed concern about tents in Ocean Park damaging the irrigation system as the tent for Della Hardman Day did last year.

Commissioners suggested that they move it to the same area that Possible Dreams used. They also want to be better informed by the organizers of Della Hardman Day.

Commissioner Combra said that he would send an email to the Library Director requesting a representative come before the Park Commission prior to the actual event.

Penn Park Little League Fields

Commissioner Phillips said she spoke with Jeff Carlson from Vineyard Golf Course; consensus was to not to do drip irrigation in the new ball field. She said that she is going to go to Water District meeting and hopes to make the Wastewater meeting both on Wednesday, April 7th. The Water District has advised that they are near their limit on the DEP water withdrawal allowance and she thinks the Park Commission is going to need to ask them to request an increase from DEP.

Gail Barmakian advised that if the Wastewater discharge was at Level One that it could be used for irrigation; it is done to protect the watershed more than for irrigation use.

Commissioners agreed that spray irrigation was the best option for the new fields. Also need to have a meeting with Wastewater & Water District.

Commissioner Phillips contacted people who designed field at MVRHS (Phil Regan, Doug Hoehn, etc) and they would like to meet with Park Commission to discuss as well as a landscape architecture. She hopes to get the field built over the summer and in the fall the grass would go in.

Little League & Park Commission Partnership Agreement – Draft Veira Park Usage

Commissioner Phillips advised that agreement was still under review by Town Administrator & Town Counsel.

Skate Park

Commissioner Phillips was unaware that the Skate Park was under the Park Commission.

Commissioner Combra replied that he is waiting to hear from the Town Administrator who is to set up a meeting with Skate Park Association representatives as well as insurance agent to discuss issues. He felt that what was in the newspapers on the insurance company's recommendations was different from what the Park Commission was advised by Town Counsel regarding management of the Skate Park. They had been told previously to avoid signage especially about wearing helmets, etc. Also that it is MVRHS property with an easement and the Town was sponsors of it but not in charge of fixing and/or maintaining it, only to empty the trash barrels on a regular basis. He said that the fence was removed because it was becoming a danger and an eyesore.

Niantic Park

Restoration of Picnic Pavilion will start if CPA funds are approved at Town meeting.

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Ocean Park Bandstand

Commissioner Phillips said that Dunkls will be working on removing equipment from bandstand during the week. Also that Mark Morris will coordinate with Dunkls for caulking & final coat.

Soldiers Memorial Fountain

Commissioner Phillips received maintenance schedule but not the actual work that was done before.

Commissioner Combra said that he may have some paperwork on it and has spoken with Powers Electric about the lighting.

Mark Crossland said that there may be a leak inside and water needs to be circulated & replenished.

Commissioner Phillips said she would speak with David Wilson about the chains around the statue.

Waban/Alley Park Puddle & Catch Basin System

Commissioner Combra said that waiting for it to dry out some more and will met with George Sourati on site.

Commissioners very pleased with the results of the pipe fix on Nantucket Avenue & Halliday Place.

Brick Bathhouse

Commissioner Phillips advised that work has been postponed until fall.

Lifeguard Town Meeting Override

Commissioner Phillips asked if it should be left as an override or should they consider debt exclusion. She also received a notice about new DPH policy for beach closure from Board of Health agent.

Commissioners said they would discuss with Town Administrator and amend it on Town meeting floor if need be.

Pennacook Park

Commissioner Combra advised that it was cleaned up for Easter weekend but unsure if there is much more that can be done.

Foreman James Tripp said neighbors were very pleased.

Mark Crossland said he is willing to plant flowers if the neighbors would help with the upkeep (weeding, watering, etc).

Commissioner Combra said that although the split rail fence keeps people from parking vehicles in the park area, he wouldn't mind seeing it removed.

Other Topics

Town Meeting – Warrant Article on Smoking Ban for Beaches and Healey Square

Commissioner Combra and Phillips agreed that they supported this effort in principle. Commissioner Phillips felt that there should be some designated place nearby where the smokers could go.

Water Dept. Meeting regarding Park & Rec. Town Water needs and future Little League Field Irrigation

Commissioner Phillips will meet with the OB Water Dept. 4/7/10 to discuss with them.

Wastewater Meeting 4/7/10 regarding options for Level of Wastewater Treatment

Commissioner Phillips recommended asking the WW Commissioners and Stearns and Wheeler engineers if there was any way the WW treatment could be done to the highest level – TOC 1 (TOC = Toxic organic carbons). This would allow spray irrigation of this reclaimed water.

Definition of “Event”

Commissioners Phillips and Combra felt that an event was an organized gathering of more than 10 people. A special event form and approval is required. A policy statement could be reviewed with Commissioner de Bettencourt next meeting.

Next meeting May 3, 2010