

## **Oak Bluffs Park Commissioners Minutes**

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**March 15, 2010**

**Members present: Nancy Phillips & Richard Combra, JR**

**Others present: James Tripp (Park Foreman), Kris Lukowitzi (Little League), Gail Barmakian (Wastewater), Heidi Raihofer (Resident), Karon Wojtkielo (Tennis Director)**

**Minutes Approved: February 1, 2010**

### **Penn Park Little League Fields**

Commissioner Phillips explained the possibility of having a “drip irrigation system” and that it would have to be approved by Wastewater, Engineer & Little League

Commissioner Combra said he looked into and spoke with a few landscapers who all said don’t do that.

Kris Lukowitzi agreed as it is untested on the Island and heard system had not worked out well. Both agreed that may be a difficult system to repair as the whole thing might have to be dug up.

Commissioner Combra said he would like to go somewhere, see the system in place and working correctly.

Commissioner Phillips advised that there will be a seminar on island on May 15<sup>th</sup> by Oakson Inc to explain the system; she added that there is a golf course on Nantucket that uses the system. The contact name for Oakson Inc is Rob Sarmanian at 978-282-1322.

She advised that Stearns & Wheeler have not gotten back to her about design and engineering.

Kris said that they will talk with the MVRHS and could design the field similar to their newest baseball field.

Gail Barmakian said that Stearns & Wheeler would be more involved with how the baseball fields would interface with Wastewater’s plans. She said she thought that they were waiting for final approval from DEP and then it would have to be put out to bid.

Will probably need to wait until Wastewater and irrigation components are finalized done before work on actual baseball fields can begin.

Decision tabled until next meeting.

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

Kris advised that Little League practice begins the first week of April weather permitting.

Commissioner Combra wanted to review it before voting on it.

Commissioner Phillips suggested that he review the draft form and if he had any major issues with it that they put to off until April’s meeting otherwise he could pass it on to the Town Administrator for review, and then vote on it at the next meeting.

Gail said that the neighborhoods concerns are the intensity of use not the actual use; the agreement allows much more by allowing night games.

Kris clarified the issue as it allows them completion of their 5:00 PM games and allows one game per week to begin at 6:00 PM on Fridays. The first game is on April 26<sup>th</sup>, during practice the lights might only be on for one hour and there are only three Fridays where the lights would be on. He feels that agreement with the Town will help protect Little League’s investment of the field.

Heidi Raihofer stated that they like way the park is now and appreciate how Little League has taken care of it; they just don’t want to see any intensity of use. They don’t want lit scoreboards and dugouts in the park, she realizes that the yellow protective shield on the top of the fence is required but she felt it is an eye sore.

Kris advised that Veira Park gets used just as much as the other fields (Nunes, Manter & WT School fields) during the baseball season. He is willing to show them what is required by National Little League.

Heidi requested that the agreement be for one year at a time so if someone doesn’t like what transpires then it could be reviewed, renew it and amended it, rather than keep it for four years.

Commissioner Phillips answered that there is a signature page for every year so everybody reviews it yearly.

Kris also stated that any changes have always been presented to the Park Commission for their approval. He added that it is to protect Little League’s investment of the field and its usage.

Gail would like to see something about the paper road and its usage by Little League; she doesn’t want to be held liable if a child is injured. She said she spoke with the Town Administrator about this and wants it to be better defined.

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### **Park Foreman**

Commissioner Phillips asked James Tripp if he had written down what is done in each park and how long it might take. She said that there are a few park areas that need to be addressed (Oriental & Saratoga).

James Tripp replied that each park is a little different; depends on weather conditions, irrigation, etc.

Commissioner Combra said that maintenance is on an "as needed" basis and that signs need to be placed at park areas so they are identified. He said they could begin a bi-annual inspection to make sure there is no illegal dumping, etc.

Commissioner Phillips asked about summer scheduling so overtime wasn't used but rather a day off during the week.

Commissioner Combra suggested that if they get a responsible person for summer help, then perhaps James Tripp could work Tuesday thru Saturday and the other person work Sunday thru Thursday.

Commissioners approved purchasing of US and POW flags for 2010 season.

### **Special Event Definition Discussion**

Commissioner Phillips wanted to clarify when someone should complete a special event permit application. She felt that if a church group wants to use Ocean Park every Wednesday during the summer to sing songs, then they should complete the form.

Commissioner Combra replied that an event is an event; they should complete the application and would need to be approved by the Park Commission. He added a policy specifically for Ocean Park should be developed; he felt it should be limited to Sunday band concerts, fireworks night, Possible Dreams & Della Hardman Day.

Commissioner Phillips agreed.

### **Ocean Park Bandstand**

Commissioner Phillips is willing to hold off on making any decision about the top.

Commissioner Combra suggested sending a notification in the summer to let people know it is going to be on the agenda to be discussed and hopefully find a resolution.

### **Soldiers Memorial Fountain**

Commissioner Phillips advised that she spoke with Rachel at Powers Electric to have them look at lights as they are supposed to be shining onto the statue.

### **Waban/Alley Park Puddle & Catch Basin System**

Commissioner Combra said there would be a meeting at 12:15 PM on Tuesday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> on site. He hoped that they will begin working on the pipe and catch basins as soon as weather permits.

Commissioner Phillips said she only has \$40,000 for engineering and work, she is hoping to put a scupper pipe that allows water to only flow one way (away from park). She added that they have been checking water level when it rains and it is very close to the water table.

### **Tennis Program Niantic Park**

Karon Wojtkielo advised that she applied for a grant from USTA, she explained the fee/pay structure and that she was going to hire only one instructor for the season. She plans to redo the lines on the courts but if she gets the grant she would replace the cranks, purchase new windscreens and possibly a ball machine that could be rented out.

She continued that Goodale Construction has agreed to donate concrete for a sidewalk (20 yards of concrete) and possibly a patio area. She suggested opening tennis program earlier – Memorial Day? And start selling keys. She will send out a mailing to last year's participants.

She created a job description for the tennis attendants and will email it to Commissioners. Commissioner Phillips said that picking up litter must be included.

Commissioner Phillips suggested allowing people looking for tennis partners to post contact info on bulletin board.

**Streetball Classic & OBPR**

Commissioner Phillips said that the Streetball Classic would be held on July 3<sup>rd</sup>; OBPR is thinking of having a Town picnic during the same time frame that would benefit Niantic Park renovations.

**Niantic Park Picnic Pavilion**

Commissioner Phillips hopes to have the picnic pavilion rebuilt by July 3<sup>rd</sup> as a historic rebuild using CPA funds.

**Storm water mitigation & Road Repaving**

Commissioner Phillips trying to combine infrastructure projects; Green Street systems coming to discuss ideas that not only beautify but also catch & filter storm water. She thought that paving could be used as matching funds.

**Next meeting April 5, 2010**