

July 19, 2010

Members present: Nancy Phillips, Richard Combra JR & Buddy deBettencourt

Others present: Tripp Knox (International Aquatics expert), Gail Barmakian (BOS/Wastewater/OB Resident), Mark Crossland (OB Resident/Landscaper), Judy Shemit (OB Resident), Karen Achilles (OB Resident), Kerry Scott (OB Resident), Frank Dunkl (Chilmark Spring Waters), Ann Margetson (OB Resident), Karon Wojtkielo (Tennis Coordinator), Emmy Smith (OB Resident), Terry McCarthy (OB Resident), Evangeline Costa

Special Event Requests

- Wedding ceremony request from Heather Delaney & Shawn Sivil to use East Chop Lighthouse on Sunday, August 15, 2010 from 5 pm – 7 pm and to have the fee waived as the groom serves in the Army National Guard and will be deployed in December 2010.

Motion: To approve Delaney-Sivil wedding request and waive the fee of \$250.

By: Commissioner Combra Second: Commissioner Phillips

Motion passed 3-0.

- Discussion of previously approved wedding of Kim Munn scheduled for July 31, 2010 and the lack of power source at East Chop Lighthouse. Commissioners agreed that applicant is responsible for trash removal and electricity.

Public Input Session – Ocean Park

Pond discussion

Commissioner Phillips asked Tripp Knox to attend meeting in order to offer suggestions regarding the pool as there have been concerns about its cleanliness, overspray, etc. She wants to get a new pump installed by October 2010.

Mark Crossland said that it was his pump and he did not need it back and that the overspray doesn't damage to the grass. He would like the names of anyone who complained about the pond to Commissioner Phillips.

Tripp Knox stated he is there to assist the Town and offer alternatives. He was not being paid to attend the meeting. He outlined the following concerns as follows:

1. Not chemically sanitary – potential disease being formed
2. Birds – something to deter them
3. Electronic system could be used to treat water
4. Filtration system to make water cleaner

He suggested introducing nature rock work around it with water trickling down in order to knock down the wind effect that occurs. He also suggested putting rocks within the pond but if they want to get rid of birds then a river rock material with water running over it would be effective. He said another alternative would be to deck it over and put in little sprayers so there would be no standing water. He continued that it can be kept the same but they should be aware that there is a State code that requires it to be either drained daily or filtered and chemically treated.

Majority of attendees want to keep the pond as it is currently just more sanitary and clean.

Commissioner Combra suggested that perhaps they could make the pond shallower than its current 18 inches, might make it easier to filter and keep clean.

Commissioner deBettencourt wants to keep the pond just as it is and treat it with the proper filter system and chemicals.

Commissioner Phillips would like to use the latest technology to help with the public health and safety issues.

Frank Dunkl spoke as a licensed water system operator and he would recommend avoiding putting rocks in as it would provide more surface area for bacteria to grow on and try to avoid chemicals but rather use a two-step process; a copper ionization process which is a natural antibacterial then an ozone injection system which would destroy organic matter (i.e. bird poop). He thought the bio filter would last five to seven years before it would need replacing as there would be very little chemicals or organic materials involved.

Mr Knox spoke about putting a wind meter on the bandstand in order to adjust the spray of the fountain but the cost would be around \$3500.

Discussion on whether more fountains would keep birds away.

Commissioner Phillips asked Tripp Knox and Frank Dunkl to gather information for the Commissioners regarding ozone system with bio filter. Mr Knox estimated the system would cost around \$10,000.

Bandstand – electrical & light fixtures

Discussion about the outer ring of lights being on all the time; possibility of it being programmed incorrectly so Cole Powers' employee will meet with Park Foreman to go over system.

Frank Dunkl said that the new inside lights are wonderful.

Commissioners would like an electrical outlet inside by the door.

Commissioner Combra said that the globes in Ocean Park are kept on by tape as the screws have corroded and or have been striped. It was agreed to look into retro-fitting lamps with LED lights.

Cole Powers said that there is different luminescence available and there are locations on island where people can see the different types. He said he will get prices on converters kits plus get some samples to put up in the park for comment.

Special Event Requests (con't)

- Plum TV requests use of Bandstand for Plum Daily Show on Wednesday, July 28, 2010 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Motion: To approve Plum TV's request with no fee.

By: Commissioner Combra Second: Commissioner Phillips

Motion passed 3-0.

- Oak Bluffs Park & Recreation Association with the Oak Bluffs Park Department to have "Let's Move MV" in Waban/Alley Park on August 24, 2010 (rain date August 25, 2010). Will also include Inkwell Beach, Veira & Niantic Parks. Karen Achilles explained First Lady Michelle Obama's program to end childhood obesity, etc. There will be demonstrations, activities, food and information promoting good health.

Motion: To approve request to hold Let's Move MV in Waban/Alley Park as well as other locations.

By: Commissioner Phillips Second: Commissioner Combra

Motion passed 3-0.

- Jack Wills' special event request application was withdrawn.

Bandstand – top

Commissioner Phillips explained that a survey had been done but questions had been raised about the results and she would like a decision to be made and is open for hearing all comments.

Judy Shemit wanted to make sure that the residents around the park who help protect it will get heard.

Commissioner Phillips said that there was a petition signed by 13 people stating they wanted the whale weathervane.

Emmy Smith read the petition:

"We, the taxpayers who live near and around Ocean Park, request that the Vineyard whale be placed back on top of the bandstand where it has been for many, many years. It has historical value to us, our children and our grandchildren. We thank you for considering this request and look forward to seeing it back on top of the beautifully restored bandstand."

She said that are 55 people who signed it, including residents of Samoset Avenue as some of them also have views of the bandstand. She said that a majority of taxpayers in the area who want the whale. She also made a petition for non-taxpaying people as well as children to sign requesting the whale be put back.

Commissioner Combra stated he had heard many comments about the weathervane and spire.

Motion: To have whale weathervane replicated to what is was there before.

By: Commissioner Combra Second: Commissioner Phillips with stipulation that it will need to go through the Cottage City Historic District and work with Architect Mo O'Connor in regards to the size, using marine quality material as well as ensuring it will fit on the lighting rod that has been installed.

Motion passed 3-0.

Commissioner deBettencourt to work with Emmy Smith and Judy Shemit in order to get a new whale weathervane.

Ms Shemit expressed concern about children climbing the bandstand and would like the police keep a better eye on it. She also asked about WIFI connection.

Commissioner Phillips thought it was working but Commissioner Combra said that the IT person has some more work to do on it before it will be working again.

Lakeside Park

Terry McCarthy advised that a group of neighbors that border Sunset Lake want to be proactive in helping the Town get the area cleaned up. They plan to have a cleanup day on August 7th and unsure of boundary lines between departments (Park, ConCom, Highway, etc) but would permission to begin their efforts. The long range goal would be make the pond viable for shellfishing again.

Commissioner Phillips thought it was a great idea and commended them for taking the initiative.

Mr McCarthy stated that they will be contacting ConCom about vegetation around the pond and get guidance from them.

Soldier Statue

Commissioner Phillips introduced Barney Zeitz who will be working on restoration of the statue and that he will begin in September. She was hoping to get the fountain working again but it would need to be circulating.

Commissioner Combra and deBettencourt didn't think the fountain was as important as repainting it and it was agreed it was unnecessary.

Special Event Requests (con't)

- Momentum Theatre Troup (non-profit) to use Waban/Alley Park with portable stage on July 31 & August 1, 2010 to perform three short plays "free of charge" but pass a hat with some amplified sound from 2:00 PM to 8:45 PM.

Motion: To deny application as not enough information and park already has many events scheduled.

By: Commissioner Combra Second: Commissioner Phillips

Motion passed 3-0.

Waban/Alley Park

Ms Barmakian advised that John Regan was unable to attend but wants to be on the agenda for the next meeting. She said that he was taken back that the plantings went in as they thought it wasn't going to be done until fall.

Commissioners told her that he should attend their next meeting to discuss the matter.

Chairmanship

Commissioner deBettencourt wanted to make it clear that chairmanship should be decided every year.

Commissioner Combra said that different boards seem to have different policies regarding chairmanship and should be included in the Park policies that at the first meeting after April elections that a vote should be held on who is to be chairman.

Commissioner Combra left the meeting after Ann Margetson placed rocks and debris from Niantic Park on table.

Niantic Park

Ann Margetson states that Niantic Park has not been raked in thirty years but new sidewalks and shrubs were put in. She felt that there was a new commercial sign that it not belong in the park and nothing has been done about the sharp edges of the bleachers. She insists that it needs to be raked and trash removed before it is mowed. She also thinks that the two parking spaces are not big enough and vehicles stick out into the street.

Commissioner Phillips said that in the job descriptions for tennis and basketball employees includes cleaning trash up from park areas. She hopes to create management plans for every park so Park Foreman knows what needs to be done.

DISCLAIMER: These minutes are based on a tape recording and as such have a margin of error.

Next meeting August 16, 2010