

## **Oak Bluffs Park Commissioners Minutes**

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**October 18, 2010**

**Members present: Nancy Phillips & Buddy deBettencourt**

**Others present: Gail Barmakian (BOS/WW/OB Resident), William Alwardt (OB Resident), George Fisher (OB Police), John Regan (OB Resident), Michele Jones (OB Resident)**

**Minutes accepted: June 7, June 21, & July 19, 2010**

### **Special Event Requests**

- Flu Clinic on November 11, 2010 using Waban/Alley Park as a staging area. Commissioner Phillips only request was that vehicles come in off Naumkeag Ave rather than Nantucket Ave to diminish wear and tear on park area.

**Motion: To approve event request by Commissioner Phillips.**

**Second: Commissioner deBettencourt.**

**Motion passed unanimously.**

- Ocean Park - Olympic distance triathlon Pre-race registration and small Expo, Sept. 10, 2011 - Odyssey Trisport, LLC contact: Matthew Brackman. Commissioner Phillips advised that they were supposed to re-submit their application to use two parks (Ocean Park & Waban/Alley Park) but they have not been received.

**No action taken.**

- Ocean Park - Wedding and Reception, September 24, 2011 – Ashley Webb & Paul Colleary. Commissioner deBettencourt would like Commissioner Combra to be in attendance so use of Ocean Park can be discussed.

**No action taken.**

- East Chop Lighthouse – Wedding, Sept. 9, 2011 - Brian Ralph. May want a tent should the weather be rainy.

**No action taken.**

### **Old Business**

#### **Ocean Park Bandstand Weathervane**

Commissioner deBettencourt said that he has been unable to meet with Emmy Smith and Judy Shemit but he would contact them.

#### **Ozone/copper water filtration system**

Commissioner Phillips said that she spoke with Wastewater Manager Joe Alosso and he advised her that ozone system is well established system cleansing system for water. It needs to meet State standards for water areas that is open to the public.

Commissioner deBettencourt said he spoke with pool expert and he said it should be treated like a pool in someone's backyard. He would ask him to attend a Parks Commission meeting to explain it.

#### **Bandstand Plaques/Cameras**

Commissioner Phillips would like no trespassing signs to be placed in four places on bandstand. She also spoke with Travis Larsen (IT) about installing surveillance cameras.

Gail Barmakian thought that the signs would ruin the look of the Bandstand and would rather just have the cameras.

William Alwardt believed that the signs were needed in order for the charges to hold up in court.

#### **Capital Improvement Prioritization**

Commissioner Phillips wanted each Commissioner to give a number to each item on the list in order to determine where the item should be on the list.

#### **Policies & Procedures**

Commissioner Phillips said that she used Massachusetts Department of Recreation & Conservation as a guideline in order to develop some for Oak Bluffs parklands and beaches. She wants to make sure that no spikes were allowed in Ocean Park except in designated areas.

It was decided to defer voting on policies & procedures until full commission in attendance.

**New Business**

**Interim Emergency Meeting**

Commissioners Phillips said that were various reasons for meeting:

1. Park Commission support of fishing pier for MVC hearing
2. Park Commission letter support for Friends And Neighbors of Sunset Lake (FANS) application for CPA FY 2012 funds
3. Park Commission application for CPA FY 2012 funds for Niantic Park preservation & adjacent water shed engineering for storm water mitigation.
4. Park Commission & OBPR application for additional CPA FY 2011 funding for Sea View brick bathrooms site work. Three major projects: SSA, Lake Ave and fishing pier in the same area. Need funds to complete project by June 30, 2011.

**Town by-laws**

Commissioner Phillips is looking for the Town by-law that refers to structures on parks that Barbara Hoyle keeps referring to.

**ConCom Public Hearings**

**Brick bathrooms & Waban/Alley Park sprinkler system**

Commissioner Phillips advised that the ConCom public hearing on the brick bathrooms went very well but the sprinkler system was denied.

**Public Comment**

John Regan thought that at the ConCom hearing on the sprinkler system that they also said the plants should be removed.

Commissioner Phillips replied that was not the case and Mr Regan can request from ConCom a printed copy of their decision.

Ms Barmakian said that there might be something in Massachusetts General Laws concerning structures in parks. She continued that parks are open space for the use of the general public so that it is why one does not see weddings, etc in parks as it impedes the general public use of the park. She was also concerned about commercial use in parks.

Commissioner Phillips replied the Mass DCR addresses commercial use in the policies and so she included that in the ones she developed. She said that a fee is charged in order to maintain Town parks and they have not charged non-profits for use of the park lands. She said that it costs the Town \$45,000 for Crossland Landscape to maintain Ocean & Hartford Parks in the Town of Oak Bluffs.

Ms Barmakian did not have a problem with the Park Commission charging a fee in order to maintain the parks but more about making a profit while using a Town park.

Commissioner Phillips felt that the Commission is there to provide guidance and determine what is for profit and non-profit before allowing use of the park. She felt that there could be public enjoyment even if it is a for profit event such as the first Festival Network concert.

Mr Alwardt wanted to know why there was a Park Department if the Town was paying Crossland that much money to maintain Ocean Park.

Commissioner deBettencourt and Phillips replied that there is only one employee and they rely on the Highway Department to assist him.

Mr Alwardt thought that they should do away with the Park Department, get rid of its one employee and put it out to bid and allow everyone on the island bid on it and take the lowest bid. He said that they should be making a profit from it.

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Ms Barmakian replied that it would probably cost the Town almost \$100,000 if it went out to bid as it is not just cutting grass, but the irrigation systems, flowers, fertilization, aeration, etc.

Commissioner Phillips said that she has asked for an itemized invoice from Crossland but has not received it. She felt that the Town should have a procurement official as it is too much for the Town Administrator to do alone.

Michele Jones and William Alwardt were concerned about the cost of putting up a tree in Sunset Lake; they want the Town to cut back on the spending.

Meeting adjourned.

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

**Next meeting November 15, 2010**