



TOWN OF MENDON
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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Meeting Date: 11/9/2017

Meeting Location: Mendon Town Hall, Parks Office, 20 Main St. Mendon, MA

Minutes Approved: 1/29/2018

Members Present: Tom Belland, Dan Byer, AJ Byrne

Members Absent:

Parks Director: Dan Byer

Others:

The meeting was called to order at 6pm

Dan updated the commission on the status of the Veteran's Park Shed Eagle Scout project. The scout is doing most of the work himself so things are taking a long time. Dan has spoken with him and will work with him to make sure he has the final supplies he needs.

Tom updated the commission on the Tetreault Field drainage project. He has spoken with Eric and he plans to start work on 11/27. Eric and Tom met to review the final details. Dan explained we sent Eric a partial payment to cover the costs of materials.

Dan discussed an issue with Fall use by Nipmuc Youth Softball. There have been a few conflicts with the use of Lowell Field because they did not properly submit a request to use the space. Dan had to speak with them a few times during the clean up of the Farm to Table Festival. It appears they have been scheduling a fall season for a while now and not submitting use requests. Tom says there is new leadership now, Steve Orff is no longer president, it is now Trevor Calvey. AJ says he knows him and will talk to him. Dan also explained they had promised repairs to the dugout fencing and an expansion of their storage shed in lieu of there spring 2017 use fees and this work has not been completed. Dan suggests we talk to them when it comes time to start planning the spring use.

Dan updated the board on the numbers from the summer season. This summer was very good. The rec program saw a huge expansion. We had to cap attendance on field trip days due to the capacity of the busses. There was a total of 193 kids registered with an average of 50 per day. The program profited \$22,951. The snack shack saw a profit of \$42.56. Things went well with Jack and David. Next year Dan would like to look into having lunch included in the price of the rec program. Dan also reviewed the swim lesson numbers. Lesson enrollment is down but we were able to offer all 4 sessions this summer. Total profit for the program was \$5,045. He experimented this summer with staffing a 3rd lifeguard for the beach to cover the increased size of the camp and paying them from the revolving account. The total cost to run the town beach this year was \$4,019. Dan reviewed attendance numbers. Total was 2,255 (442 R, 127 Ux, 661 NR, 1025 Passes). There was a giant increase in the use of season passes, almost 250 more than last

summer. We sold 22 resident passes, 10 Uxbridge passes, and 8 non-resident passes. The season passes generated \$216 in extra profit above the costs of admissions.

Dan discussed the rec program staffing. We hired 13 and ended up with 12. Dan felt things went really well this year. He would recommend we look to hire around 14 people next summer. The program is definitely expanding. Lifeguard staffing went well too. We had no major issues with vacations this year. Dan mentioned there may be a problem with staffing for lessons next summer. The commission will need to consider plans to have additional staff received WSI training.

The commission discussed the Morrison Dr police shell building. Dan would like to put forwards a proposal to utilize the building for parks maintenance as well as possible future program space. All are on board. Dan needs to get some more information together to come up with some rough estimates.

Dan explained we may have a need to replace our landscape trailer soon. The current trailer is 20 years old and may be nearing the end of its life. Dan will look into some pricing options.

Dan discussed a proposal to offer children's yoga. He was contacted by Kelley O'Grady to discuss the possibility of offering a children's yoga class. The board is definitely in favor. Dan will meet with her and come up with the details. Right now, he is working with the school to see if there is any space available.

The commission discussed the possibility of a summer event similar to the block party at the park this summer. AJ says the community really enjoyed the block party and there is definitely an interest in some sort of big community event. Tom and Dan agree. Dan would like to see the event take place during our summer season when we have staff on board to assist. The commission will continue to discuss this idea.

The meeting was adjourned at 7pm