



TOWN OF MENDON
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

20 Main Street
Mendon, Massachusetts 01756
Phone: (508) 473-0600 Fax: (508) 478-8241
Email: parkcomm@mendonma.gov
mendonma.gov/parks

Meeting Date: 5/4/22 – 7pm
Meeting Location: Hybrid
Minutes Approved: 1/10/2023

Members Present: Tom Belland, Dan Byer, AJ Byrne

Members Absent:

Parks Director: Dan Byer

Others:

The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm with Dan and Tom in attendance.

Brian St. John joined remotely. Tom and Dan discussed the maintenance crew position with him. They discussed staffing and the plans for the summer. They would like to schedule 3 people, Brian, Chris, and Aiden as the foreman. Brian was concerned about the initial pay offer of \$14.75. After reviewing all agree this was a mistake based on Brian's experience and agree to offer him \$16/hr. Brian agrees.

Brian left the meeting. AJ Byrne joined in person at 7:40pm.

The commissioners discussed a request to name the softball concession stand. They agreed to do more research into the history of the building and would like the proponent to attend a future meeting to discuss further.

They discussed fertilizer treatments. Dan got some additional quotes from other vendors, but they are even more expensive. All agree to keep Diamond and just skip the first month's treatment.

Tom made a motion to sign the contract for Diamond Athletics as amended, Dan seconded and all approved.

The commission discussed field use fees. Tom feels there should be some level of buy-in from all groups. We have been waiving the use fees for the t-ball fields for around 10 years now. With the increased costs we need to re-evaluate our fee structure.

Dan made a motion to update the use fees as follows, effective 7/1/22 starting with summer 2022 use requests:

No more fee waiver for the use of Grady and Wagner T-Ball Fields

The Capital Improvement Waiver program will be limited to waiving 75% of the total fees due, a min 25% payment will be required.

Tom seconded, all approved.

Tom reviewed the discussion we had with Brian St. John. They discussed having a crew of 3 instead of 4. All agree we need to be competitive; we can pay a bit more for 3 people. The rates would be \$18, \$16, and \$14.25 and all would work 40 hours a week. Because they are in college, they should be able to start earlier. Aiden has experience with maintenance and Brian has experience with Mendon.

Tom made a motion to hire the following people for the maintenance crew pending a clear background check:

Title	Name	Rate/hr	Notes
Maintenance Crew Forman	Aiden Morcone	\$18/hr	
Maintenance Crew	Brian St. John	\$16/hr	<i>Rescind vote from 3/21/22 mtg and adjust rate</i>
Maintenance Crew	Chris Machione	\$14.25/hr	

Dan seconded, all approved.

The commission discussed lifeguards. Dan recommended hiring Evan Hazard and Astrid Lee as guards. They were late applicants, Dan and Tom interviewed Evan; he needs to get certified.

Tom made a motion to hire Evan Hazard as a lifeguard at a rate of \$15/hr pending a clear background check and certifications, Dan seconded, and all approved.

Dan discussed the other guards. He's not sure we will have enough with returning staff based on 2nd jobs and conflicts. Astrid has a strong resume and experience with competitive swimming, and he recommends we vote to hire her pending an interview.

Tom made a motion to hire Astrid Lee as a lifeguard at a rate of \$15/hr pending a positive interview and clear background check and certifications, Dan seconded, and all approved.

Dan discussed the rec program staffing. One of the candidates for senior counselor declined so as discussed, he is recommending we vote to bump Jack Hughes up to that spot.

Tom made a motion to promote Jack Hughes to Senior Counselor at a rate of \$14.75/hr, Dan seconded and all approved.

Dan explained we had a late application from a returning employee, Mia Guadagnoli. She had applied late after the deadline. Since we have a vacancy, he's recommending hiring her back.

Tom made a motion to promote Mia Guadagnoli as a Rec Program Counselor at rate of \$14.50/hr, Dan seconded and all approved.

The commission discussed lifeguard training reimbursement. We will offer \$100 towards renewal. The class is around \$200 for 2 years. After they have been with us for 2 years and are in need of renewal, we will offer them a \$100/year bonus to return in years 3 and 4.

Tom made a motion to approve, Dan seconded, and all approved.

The commission discussed the Grover shed. It needs to be replaced. Tom thinks it could be \$2,500 for materials. They discussed some ideas on location.

The commission discussed the courts. Dan got pricing to repair the tennis and basketball courts. Ace Tennis Courts are saying \$10,500 for the basketball court. It would not qualify for CPA funds but maybe we could split it with the summer basketball league.

Dan also got pricing to add pickleball lines to the tennis court and also the mini court at Clough School. If we add pickleball lines, it will count as a new project and should be eligible for CPA funds. He has gotten questions about adding pickleball. They reviewed the photos of the tennis court showing damage. \$13,100 for the Tennis Courts and then \$8,500 for the court at Clough. Tom asked about the damage, Dan said they were done in 2013 so it's been about 10 years and they are overdue for work.

The commission discussed a garage for parks maintenance. The town wants to sell Morrison Dr shell and it's out for bid. There aren't a lot of other options of existing locations in town that will fit our equipment. The commission discussed benefits of the Morrison Dr location vs a new building at the park.

The commissioners reviewed the town beach presentation and reviewed the plans. They disused the proposal for the playground area for a swing set, slide, and climbing apparatus. They discussed fencing. AJ has a contact he will try. Tom will contact North Smithfield Fence. Dan said we can get 3 quotes on fencing and then just go to bid on the beach landscaping

Tom reviewed the presentation, and they discussed talking points for the town meeting. We need better pics of the new wall contrasted with the failing wall. AJ suggested looking at some residential wall projects in town for examples of what we are looking for. They discussed recessed stairs.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm, next meeting will be 5/18 at 10am.