



TOWN OF MENDON
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

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Meeting Date: 9/5/2018
Meeting Location: Willowbrook Restaurant, 16 Hastings St. Mendon, MA
Minutes Approved: 12/26/18

Members Present: Tom Belland, Dan Byer, AJ Byrne

Members Absent:

Parks Director: Dan Byer

Others: Jay Byer

The meeting was called to order at 6.41pm.

The commission discussed the chairman position and reorganizing the board.

Dan made a motion to elect Tom as the chair, AJ seconded and all approved.

The commission met with Jay Byer (Business and Finance Director for MURSD) to discuss Clough Field. Chris Hadfield from Mendon Upton Youth Soccer had reached out to Dan to inquire about possible repairs and improvements to the Clough Field. Jay discussed some work the school is exploring. They are planning to remove the old fence and clear some trees and poison ivy. They may replace the fence in the future but the cost is \$25K and not feasible at this time. They are also looking to take down the old backstop that is rotting in the woods. The commission discussed top dressing and aerating the field as well as re-seeding. The issue is when to close it for repairs. Jay suggests June as the ideal time once school is ended. The school has approved 3,600 for the tree work. Parks will reach out to soccer to see if they are able to contribute funds to this field.

Tom made a motion to approve the minutes of 1/29/18, 3/18/18, 5/10/18, and 7/23/18; AJ seconded and all approved.

The commission discussed the summer programming. Dan shared some financial data for the programs. (**Exhibit A**).

Dan also discussed the staff evaluation program. He worked with Alan to set up employee peer reviews for the rec staff and come up with a plan for more complete reviews next summer. The commission discussed staffing. All agree that if there are performance issues we should address them earlier if we can. The commission discussed the Maintenance Crew. This summer there were a few minor issues with 1 staff member who turned out to not be a good fit. Overall things went much better.

The commission discussed the parks building/garage. Tom will get a price from GBI on a modular building to be installed at the Park.

The commission discussed the proposed battle of the bands event. AJ has talked to Pete Reiffarth and the Brothers of the Brush and there is interest in a “Battle of the Bands” for early summer to be held at the park. The event can be a fundraiser for the MendonFest or even a Parks need. AJ suggests raising funds for a 2nd basketball court.

The commission discussed the plans for MendonFest in 2019. AJ would like to know if the Town can contribute to the fireworks. Ideally he would like to see if Parks can kick in \$2,000. Dan will look into this.

The commission discussed Nipmuc Youth Softball’s proposal to build a shed on Lowell Field. They are still looking for a contractor to complete the project.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.