

2013-01-14 Recreation Minutes

Brooklyn Parks and Recreation Commission

Regular Meeting

January 14, 2013

Commission members present: Mike Gaudreau, Steve Danna, Scott Allen, Kim Conroy, Dave Guimont, Steven Phillips and Mae Lyons First Selectman, Austin Tanner

Also present: Bucky Lohbusch, Director; Chris Boyle, Secretary

Absent: Lauren Rossi, Lou Oleksy

Public attended : Norwich Bulletin

Called to Order:

7:04pm

1. Approval of minutes – special meeting Dec 10, 2012

1st Mae Lyons 2nd Scott Allen All in favor

2. Approval of monthly budget reports

1st Scott Allen 2nd Steve Danna

3. Riverside Park-Kiosk

Bill Reed—Last Green Valley—proposed building and maintaining a kiosk, through a grant, at the boat launch at Riverside Park. The kiosk will have information about the river events and paddling .The conservation commission will consulted as to placement and any modifications needed. May use students to build the project.

Motion made to approve Riverside Park Kiosk : 1st Scott Allen 2nd David Guimont
All in Favor

4. Disc Golf Discussion

There is a Meeting with Planning and Zoning on Feb 6, 2013 for the Disc Golf proposal the commission will move forward with purchasing the disc Golf accessories.

5. Recreation Offices

Mr. Gaudreau feels the commission put its best foot forward with the town communicating with alternative plans to look into instead of moving the Recreation offices. Mr. Gaudreau is disturbed at the direction the town of Brooklyn is moving in. Probate has no plan. He stated he is angry and disappointed in the leadership in the town. Mr. Gaudreau feels the town just wants to move the Rec Department no matter what.

Mr. Tanner stated the selectmen are looking for the best options for the town. Probate has stated they do not like the location of Tiffany street and would consider moving to Brooklyn only to the Clifford B Green Building. Probate stated they will pay for ½ renovations, but Brooklyn is responsible for 1/6 the cost because it is a regional program. Probate will pay for 100% of renovations if REC moves but the town would be responsible for the Tiffany Street renovations.

Mr. Tanner says he is frustrated with the Commission not looking at this as an opportunity to grow and

help those people in the Tiffany Street area. Mr. Tanner also stated there has been no formal cost analysis on any of the plans discussed it just would be great to have probate in the town.

Kim Conroy stated the level of frustration comes from the town Recreation offices being moved when the leadership feels a better deal is in the works. The bottom line is Probate doesn't want to go to Tiffany Street so the Selectman has decided Rec will go. Need to make sure that the Tiffany Street facility is acceptable to the Commission and the people of the town.

Steve Phillips stated it could be good to help the kids down in that area.

There would be a need for the town to be willing to fund programs and maybe grants should be looked at. Steve Danna and Mae Lyon feel there will be no benefit to the town to move the Recreation offices, the town will lose money, through the cost of Renovations to Tiffany Street and the lack of rent it could receive, and the fact that we pay 1/6 of the cost of the probate court.

There will be a meeting the end of January for the Probate Court to decide if they want to come to Brooklyn. When and if they decide the process will begin to move forward.

6. Program Update

Brochure for Spring/ Summer programs going out
Safety Changes made to the Before and After School Programs drop off/ pick up

7. Public Time

Steve Phillips commented on the new gym in the middle school. He is a referee and feels the new floor is terrible; it will cause a lot of injuries. The lines are terrible and look like they are made of tape. The floor is also squeaky. No volleyball inserts. Mr. Tanner will report this to the building committee. The project has not been accepted yet.

8. Adjournment 8:21 pm

Motion made: 1st Scott Allen 2nd Steve Phillips All in Favor