

## 2013-07-08 Recreation Minutes

Brooklyn Parks and Recreation Commission

Regular Meeting

July 8, 2013

Commission members present: Mike Gaudreau, Mae Lyons, Kim Conroy, Lou Oleksy and Lauren Rossi

Also present: Bucky Lohbusch, Director; Chris Boyle, Secretary, Austin Tanner; First Selectman

Absent: Steve Danna, Scott Allen, Dave Guimont, Steve Phillips

Public attended : reporter

Called to Order:

7:13pm

1. Approval of minutes – Regular meeting June 10, 2013

1<sup>st</sup> Lou Oleksy 2<sup>nd</sup> Lauren Rossi All in favor

2. Approval of monthly budget reports

1<sup>st</sup> Lauren Rossi 2<sup>nd</sup> Kim Conroy All in favor  
Returning 15,000 to the Town

3. Recreation Office's

Discussion included:

Selectmen's meeting

Petition that was filed for a town meeting

Lack of communication between town officials, commission and school

Town Hall is not the best place for Recreation office's but according to Mr. Tanner it will facilitate communication although the square footage will be about one third of what it is now and it is not handicap accessible.

The Selectman meet on Thursday and hopefully a town meeting/hearing date will be set to discuss the issues.

Comments

Mr. Tanner restated moving the office's is not personal.

Lauren Rossi- feels it is disrupting the whole town, the townspeople are upset that they have no say. The deal with Probate has had a bad domino effect.

Mr. Tanner thinks it will be more efficient to have Rec Offices in town hall.

Kim Conroy spoke and feels the town hall is a poor choice to house the Recreation Office. The Selectmen still don't know the cost of renovations for all the moves and the costs will have to be approved by the BOF.

Mr. Tanner thinks moving the offices to the town hall will make the town run more efficiently and facilitate better communication.

4. Riverside Park Update

The infields are mushy. The dirt seems incorrect, it should be more clay like. Janet was contacted and will go down the Park to check the site. It is not signed off yet.

The Gazebo will move forward and it will have to go out to bid. The commission may consider a brick walkway or plaques to sell to offset the cost.

The conservation side of Riverside Park is not complete and may not be done until Fall.

Planning for Park Events for next summer, need to begin now. Volleyball equipment will be ordered ,but the league planning will be on hold at this time.

#### 5 . Recreation Study

There was an overview of the operations of the government in Brooklyn. It looked at Staffing and what each office does and identifies needs.

The Parks and Recreation Dept.was studied and found the staff is not adequate for the work that is done. He stated Brooklyn had a " Robust Recreation dept." He feels the administrative assistant should be full time.

The increase in hours for the assistant position, that was put in the 2013-2014 budget that was passed by the town, was denied again this year by Mr. Tanner. He will allow part time help in the office for events if needed. He believes branching out and using different personnel will strengthen the dept. Lou Oleksy asked, " if Joanne wasn't Bucky's wife would he( Mr. Tanner) approve a fulltime position?" He replied, "It might be different." He still feels the commission has not proven the need for a full time assistant.

The study also showed that there should be coordination of jobs with the highway department. All the departments should meet and discuss the future of the town.

#### 6. Other Business

Two letters were sent to the Parks and Recreation department requesting vending machines be put back at Prince Hill.

Bucky will call D&Z and see if they would be willing to put the vending machines back at Prince Hill. D&Z owned the machines and they were vandalized and removed.

Bucky will look into it , or other potential companies.

One Basketball backboard and Net at Prince Hill was taken down because the backboard was cracked.

It could be from use or from the bolts cracking. Bucky will get in touch with the salesman to see if it can be fixed, or what the warranty is, we will talk to him first.

#### 7. Public time- none

#### 8. Adjournment 8:23 pm

Motion made: 1<sup>st</sup> Lauren Rossi 2<sup>nd</sup> Lou Oleksy All in Favor

