

APPROVED COPY

Parks Commission Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2012 at Legion Hall

ATTENDEES: Don Black, Jeff Ohringer, Laurie Smigelski, Jon Strauss

ABSENT: Dave Howes

GUESTS: Paul Ciarfella, T.J. Ciarfella, David Fitzpatrick, Tom Fitzpatrick, Lyle Hamerla, Ryan Hamerla, Bob Johnson, Matt Pisani, Kevin Woitowicz

MEETING OPENED: Mr. Black opened the meeting at 7:01pm.

READING OF THE MINUTES: Minutes for the April 11th meeting were read. They were unanimously approved.

BILLS SIGNED:

- GELD – Cow Pond – FB Field \$ 6.75
- GELD – Cow Pond – FB Stand \$ 14.93
- GELD – Cow Pond – BB Field \$ 10.08
- GELD – Cow Pond Ball Fld Pkg Lot \$ 12.00
- GELD – Cow Pond Brook Soccer \$ 48.61
- GELD – Stonebridge Fields \$ 6.75
- GELD – Cutler Field \$ 6.75
- GELD – Wheeler Park \$ 6.75
- GELD – Basketball Court(park) \$ 6.75
- GELD – 5 Commons - Flagpoles \$ 32.50
- GELD – Sawyer Common \$ 6.50
- GELD – Chicopee Row at Sawtell \$ 6.75
- ASLAN Enterprises \$4,804.00
- New England Specialty Soils \$1,801.75
- Waste Management \$ 45.14
- A-1 Portable Toilets \$ 544.00
- Block and Blade \$4,382.50
- Mead Tree and Landscape – This bill was signed by the Commission that the work was done and the bill is to be paid through the DPW per Tom Delaney.
- Waste Management Service agreement signed for one year.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Loaves and Fishes sent an invitation for an Open House at their Devens facility.

FIELD USE REQUESTS:

- Tony Cardinali representing West Groton Cub Scouts, Pack 12 requested Cow Pond Brook fields for June 23rd, 10am to 12pm.
- Chris Martinez representing GDYSC requested Cow Pond Brook fields for the week of August 20th – August 24th, 9am to 3pm.
- Both requests were unanimously approved.

REPORTS:

- David Fitzpatrick gave an update on his proposal to create a Gold Star Memorial on Sawyer Common for his Boy Scout Eagle Project.
 - Plan 1 is to create a U-shaped garden with a memorial stone opposite (mirroring) the existing Blue Star Memorial. Ms. Hommeyer from the Garden Club gave Mr. Fitzpatrick an estimate of \$1500 for the garden. Mr. Delaney of the DPW would move and install the memorial stone at no cost for either of Mr. Fitzpatrick's plans.
 - Plan 2 is to place a memorial stone with a couple of bushes flanking the stone and eliminating a garden. If there were enough extra money, a granite bench could be added.
 - The goal is to have whichever project is decided upon to be completed by Veteran's Day 2012.
 - A site walk is planned for Saturday, May 12th at 9am.
- Ryan Hamerla gave an update on his proposal to create a memorial at Stonebridge Field in honor of Sgt. William Woitowicz.
 - Mr. Hamerla presented a petition to rename Stonebridge Field to Sgt. William J. Woitowicz Memorial Field. It was brought up that the school is thinking of naming the high school gym after Sgt. Woitowicz. The commissioners voted unanimously to indefinitely postpone the petition to rename Stonebridge Field until they know whether or not the school will rename the gym.

- A site walk was done on Saturday, May 5th. Mr. Hamerla showed a plan of where the memorial garden could be placed. Mr. Black asked him to spray paint the areas where everything will go at the site so all the commissioners could go and check it out on their own time. He also wants the neighbors/abutters to be invited to be able to see what is being planned and to get their opinions of the changes.
 - The goal is to have the project completed by the end of this summer.
- P.J. Ciarfella asked the Commissioners for ideas for his Boy Scout Eagle project. He needs to complete a project by October 1st of this year. He was given the idea of doing 2 dugout roofs at the Field of Dreams at Cow Pond. The Commissioners also recommended that he check with the Trails Committee for ideas. Mr. Ciarfella was considering a lifeguard stand at the Town Beach and was referred to Barbara Ganem of the Conservation Commission. The Town Beach is not part of Parks.
- Matt Pisani, Cub Scout Pack Cubmaster, approached the Commissioners requesting permission for a sleepover on the Town Field for September 15-16, 2012. There is a possible 100 participants. They would set up camp on Saturday along with informational booths, have demonstrations, games, and a flag retirement ceremony. They would like a central campfire for Saturday night. The Commissioners suggested the possibility that they do it at Hazel Grove. No decisions were made at this time.
- Discussion was held regarding the situation at the Town Field when the schools have half days. The students congregate at the field and leave a mess. In the past, there has been destruction. They used to kick out the railings on the Smith Pavilion until it was decided not to replace them again. Mr. Black will speak with Chief Palma to see if he has any ideas on how to handle this situation.
- There is no one running for the Parks Commission position. Robert Steven Hall is interested in the position as a write-in candidate.
- Ms. Smigelski read a draft letter to send to the Lagasse family regarding trimming of trees at Hazel Grove. Mr. Black motioned to accept the letter with revisions suggested. Mr. Ohringer seconded. The vote was unanimous to accept the letter with the revisions.
- The West Tower at Hazel Grove is gone. Mike Kinney approved a demolition permit for it. Tom Delaney's budget provided the money for the electrical work needed and a dumpster.
- Mr. Black will be scheduling a special meeting for June 27th. This will be to review Fiscal Year 2012.
- A new pump has been ordered by Montachusett for Cutler Field. Emergency funding will cover the cost of the pump.

- The first game was held on the Field of Dreams at Cow Pond. The feedback was positive. Everyone loved it. The lighting on the field and the lighting for getting to parked cars was determined sufficient. The lights are remotely controlled by a site in Iowa. The scoreboard still needs to be installed.
- Bob Johnson volunteered to be a liason between the Boy Scouts doing Eagle projects and the Park Commission.
- The DPW handles a lot of tasks at the fields and commons. Mr. Strauss said that many of these tasks are time dependent. He said that if the DPW cannot get them done in time that we should be able to get someone else to do the work and have the DPW pay for it. Mr. Black said that this should be brought forth to Mr. Haddad and Mr. Delaney.

ADJOURN/NEXT MEETING: Mr. Black adjourned the meeting at 9:42pm. The next meeting will be held at the Legion Hall on Wednesday, June 13th at 7:00pm.

Respectively Submitted,

Becky Babcock

Administrative Assistant

Parks Commission