

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday, April 15, 2020

4:30 p.m.

Remote Meeting

Present: Dennis Grader Chairperson, , Albert Cummings, Secretary, Jon Dobosz, Director of Parks & Recreation, Jennifer Peterson, Clerk/Bookkeeper (4:38)

Absent: Barbara Kuklewicz

Meeting Being Recorded

1. 4:35pm Meeting Called to Order

2. 4:36pm Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 20, 2020

Motion: Albert Cummings makes a motion to accept the minutes as written; seconded by Dennis Grader.

Approved: 2-0

3. 4:36p.m. COVID-19/Coronavirus Affect on Operations/Programs/Events

Operations of Parks and Facilities: Our Board of Selectmen and Health Department have closed playgrounds and Skate Park due to the COVID-19 and social gathering restrictions imposed by Governor Baker. In lieu of revenue losses the annual delivery of woodchips to Unity and Highland Park can be pushed back to July, after the new fiscal year begins. The Unity Park Field 1 maintenance will also be pushed back due to the COVID-19 coronavirus. May 4 the Governor will update the restrictions.

Events: The EGGstravaganza has been postponed. On Saturday, April 11 we did have Peter Cottontail Socially Distant Drive By Tour go through all five villages with the police and fire department. There were a couple hundred people along the parade route.

Programs: The Tee Ball, Rookie League and Adult Softball programs are on hold until May 16. Jon is anticipating an approximate loss of 15%-20% revenue if these programs are cancelled. The spring Cookie Dough fundraiser that will mostly likely be cancelled. If restrictions continue and our Summer Camp is unable to run or is shortened, Jon projects the losses to the revolving revenue to be even more significant. Due to the potentially difficult financial situation of the department Jon recommends to the Commission that a reserve fund transfer of wages for our part-time/summer wages may be necessary.

Informal(?) Motion: Albert Cummings makes a motion to have Jon request a reserve fund transfer for part-time/summer wages, if he deems necessary; seconded by Dennis Grader.

Approved: 2-0

4. 4:49p.m. Rutter's Park Items

•Parking Concerns: It has been brought to our attention that 3 or 4 Lake Pleasant residents are using the park's lot for long term parking. Steve Ellis, police department and DPW Superintendent, Tom Bergeron are all aware of this issue. Jon believes this should be discussed at the Board of Selectmen's meeting on April 27, the commission agrees.

Rutter's Park Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting – Saturday, June 6 @ 1:00p.m.: is currently still scheduled, updates to this may occur.

5. 4:53p.m. Montague Center Park Update

Currently there are no updates. Jon noticed there has been some water collecting in the outfield. He hopes to plant trees outside of this the area, which may help with this issue.

6. 4:57p.m. FY21 Budget/Annual Town Meeting – Saturday, June 13

Jon is submitting a Special Article item for \$5,000 to survey the Montague Center Park. He has not received any quotes yet but has been advised this amount is a good estimate.

7. 4:59p.m. Parks & Recreation Director Business

Unity Park’s Fieldhouse roof project is complete.

8. 5:01p.m. Topics not anticipated in the 48 hour posting requirement

Albert Cummings wanted to recognize the community service the Montague and Greenfield’s fire/police departments are providing for area children. They are having a parade of vehicles drive by children’s houses that are celebrating birthdays.

9. 5:03p.m. Adjournment – Motion: Albert Cummings makes the motion for adjournment; seconded by Dennis Grader.

Approved: 2-0

X _____

Albert Cummings, Secretary Date Or _____

Signature Name & Title: _____

Print: _____

Date: _____