

BRISTOL PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING – MINUTES JUNE 16, 2009

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Gordon Benner, Jane Tedrow, and Cerina Leeman

ALSO PRESENT: Tammy Lee and Laurie Chandler

Gordon called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

MINUTES: On a motion by Jane, seconded by Cerina, the minutes from the May 19 and June 2 meetings were accepted as written.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Jane distributed a detailed report showing individual income sources and expense categories as of the end of May.

MARKETING/PR REPORT: Cerina has written two press releases. This week's highlights the opening of the beach and the new fee schedule. Next week's will focus on events at the beach, including the yoga classes. Maine Open Lighthouse Day will be held on Sat., Sept. 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This U.S. Coast Guard event is designed to offer public access to as many of the state's active lighthouses as possible. The selectmen have voted to help the Parks Commission hold a celebration that day at the lighthouse. A meeting will be held Friday from 3-6 p.m. at Pat Landry's house to plan this event, in conjunction with the Lighthouse Committee. Pat will be writing the press releases. The commissioners also discussed holding a lobster bake that day. On a motion by Cerina, seconded by Gordon, the commissioners voted to support the Lighthouse Committee with their plans to celebrate Maine Open Lighthouse Day. Admission to the lighthouse will be free on Sept. 12 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

LEARNING CENTER YOGA: Tammy Lee asked if a decision had been made regarding the charge for renting the Learning Center for yoga classes. She is considering holding classes on Monday and Wednesday mornings and would need the building for 1 1/2 hours. She might also hold longer classes around noon on the days of the full moons in July and August. She could reschedule any time there was a conflict for the use of the building. The commissioners discussed the request and calculated the charge to be \$75 per hour. Students would be admitted free if a list of their names were provided in advance. Jane will call Tammy with this decision.

GROUNDS REPORT: The outdoor shower at the beach will be operational soon. The Pemaquid Watershed Association Butterfly Garden looks wonderful. Jane suggested that some of the PWA volunteers could also be invited to work in the lighthouse gardens, but Gordon does not think this is necessary at this time.

LEARNING CENTER PROGRAMS/GRAND OPENING: The commissioners discussed whether to charge admission for Learning Center events; no decision was made. Cerina suggested planning three programs initially and trying to avoid evenings when Colonial Pemaquid has a program. She will invite Warren Riess to speak about the Angel Gabriel and will request that he volunteer his time. The program would be scheduled at his convenience. The commissioners scheduled the Grand Opening for Sat., July 18 from 12 to 4 p.m. Plans for refreshments, exhibits and a slide show were discussed. The commissioners plan to invite the Fisherman's Museum, Lighthouse Committee, and Melanie Tilton to have displays.

BIG BEACH BAZAAR: Jane has posters and ads prepared and Cerina will change the time of the barbeque on the website. Jane plans to also advertise the event in the Coastal Journal for one or two weeks, depending on the cost. The raindate is July 12. Jane will track table signups and Gordon will handle the barbeque.

BEACH SNACK BAR: Thomas LeGault has signed a lease to operate the snack bar and already has it open. The commissioners agreed to adjust his payment schedule because the lease was signed on June 10. A payment of \$300, rather than \$600, will be due on June 20, with the remaining \$300 due on or before July 20. The two other \$600 payments are due July 20 and August 20.

BEACH ELECTRICAL SERVICE: Gordon met with a CMP representative to discuss the beach parking lot lights. He was able to negotiate the disconnecting of the lights in the offseason. The selectmen will vote on the light issue at their next meeting.

HEALTHY KIDS: This organization's Parents as Teachers play group has requested an August field trip to the beach free of charge. The commissioners approved a flat charge of \$30 for the group, which should include 10 to 12 adults. Jane would like to know the exact date in advance.

OTHER ISSUES: The commissioners discussed possible responses to complaints about the increase in beach fees and plan to give beach staff training in how to respond. Jane shared a draft from PWA of a brochure for the Butterfly Garden. Good Morning America is visiting the lighthouse next week to interview John Allan.

EXERCISE BOOT CAMP: The commission has had a request to hold a Exercise Boot Camp at Pemaquid Beach or Little Beach 2 to 3 days per week for 45 to 90 minutes. The commission has no jurisdiction over Little Beach. Classes at Pemaquid Beach would need to be held before opening hours, not on Tuesdays or Thursdays, and the charge would be \$5 per person per session. There would be no charge after the beach has closed for the season. Proof of insurance would be required.

The next meeting will be held on Tues., July 7, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Bristol Town Office. The July 21 and Aug. 18 meetings will both be held at 8 a.m. at the Learning Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Laurie Chandler, Secretary