

BRISTOL PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING – MINUTES OCTOBER 20, 2009

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Gordon Benner, Cerina Leeman, and Paul Tierney

ALSO PRESENT: Kris Poland and Laurie Chandler

Gordon called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

MINUTES: On a motion by Cerina, seconded by Paul, the minutes from the October 6 meeting were unanimously accepted as written.

FINANCIAL REPORT: As of today, total income for the year is \$263,150.17 and total expenses for the year are \$209,781.42, leaving a balance of \$53,368.75. Kris reported that, as of Dec. 31, 2008, the Parks and Recreation Commission owed the town \$13,582.20 for shortfalls in prior years. On a motion by Paul, seconded by Cerina, the commissioners unanimously approved paying the entire amount of the debt at the end of 2009, approximately \$13,582. For the next meeting, Cerina will project operating expenses for the next six months. Kris confirmed that the goal of the town is to have the Parks and Recreation Commission become financially self-sufficient, by building up a reserve for capital and operating expenses, to carry out operations until the parks open each spring.

TRACTOR PURCHASE: Gordon has now received four bids from three vendors for the purchase of a new tractor to replace the Kubota tractor used at the beach. The commissioners reviewed the bids, including the warranty information. All of the bids include identical warranties: 1 year on the bucket, 2 years on the tractor, and 3 years on the drive train and transmission. The low bidder was Union Farm Equipment, who would replace the tractor with a Kubota L4240HST, for a cost of \$15,113 after trade-in of the old tractor. Gordon also provided a written estimate of the expense of repairing the current tractor. Paul asked if this tractor was the piece of equipment currently most in need of replacement, which Gordon confirmed. On a motion by Cerina, seconded by Paul, the commissioners unanimously voted to purchase the Kubota L4240HST from Union Farm Equipment, at a cost of \$15,113 after trade-in, pending approval by the selectmen. The purchase will be considered by the selectmen at their meeting tomorrow night.

EVENT SCHEDULING: The commissioners discussed plans for programming at the Learning Center for 2010. Everyone agreed that it was a priority to have a full program of speakers next season, including at least one major speaker each of the summer months. Paul agreed to schedule the speakers. Some of the proposed speakers and topics are: John Allan, Kevin Mullin, Warren Reiss (about the Angel Gabriel), ocean birds, lobstering, and knot tying. Cerina will schedule the concerts for 2010. It was decided to have three concerts, the Bath Municipal Band, Pete Collins, and perhaps a bluegrass band. The commissioners are still planning to purchase a sound and AV system for the Learning Center.

OTHER ISSUES: Paul suggested selling CD's about the lighthouse for a donation, as well as increasing the sales of other items. Cerina will be writing thank you letters and will purchase lighthouse stationery to use. Newcastle Square Realty has sent a draft rental agreement for the lighthouse apartment for next season, which Cerina will review. The realtor does not suggest an increase in the weekly rental amount. John Allan and Gordon have been discussing the possibility of a security system for the Learning Center, with motion detectors, at a cost of approximately \$1,000, plus a monthly fee. After discussing the risks and the value of the Learning Center exhibits, it was decided not to purchase a security system. The commissioners will make sure that there is an accurate inventory of the building contents and that the insurance on the building is adequate. The Friends of Pemaquid Point Lighthouse will be receiving some federal funds to fix some glass in the lighthouse tower and would like to borrow a long hose. Kris will let Gordon know when they need it and he will have it available.

There will be no meeting held on Election Day, Nov. 3. The next meeting will be held on Tues., Nov. 17 at 5:30 p.m. at the Bristol Town Office.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Laurie Chandler, Secretary