

BRISTOL PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING – MINUTES DECEMBER 1, 2009

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Gordon Benner, Cerina Leeman and Paul Tierney

ALSO PRESENT: Laurie Chandler

Prior to the meeting, the drawing was held to choose the winner of the quilt donated by Jane Tedrow to benefit the Learning Center. Jane was also present for the drawing. The winner of the raffle was Lynn Kimball of New Harbor. Cerina called Lynn and will try to get together with both her and Jane for a photo with the quilt.

Gordon called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

MINUTES: On a motion by Paul, seconded by Cerina, the minutes from the November 17 meeting were unanimously accepted as written.

EVENT SCHEDULING FOR 2010: Cerina has been finalizing the event schedule for 2010. Tentatively, the Katahdin Valley Boys, a bluegrass band, will play a concert at the beach on June 24. The Bath Municipal Band concert at the lighthouse has been scheduled for July 21 and the Pete Collins concert at the beach for Aug. 12. Gordon noted that we need to call the Olde Bristol Days committee to confirm that they will pay half of the cost for Pete Collins. The yard sale at the beach will be held on Aug. 21. Gordon plans to hold BBQ meals in conjunction with all of these events. The commissioners also discussed the Learning Center programming for next year, which Paul is working on. A lobsterman's panel presentation was suggested. For the town meeting supper, Gordon suggested providing a meal by donation only, with half of the proceeds going to benefit the playground at the Bristol School. This would encourage attendance at the town meeting and be a way to thank the Bristol School for the use of their building for events.

OTHER ISSUES: The commissioners discussed plans for recognizing and thanking Jane Tedrow for her donation of the quilt for the raffle. Santa will arrive at the lighthouse this Saturday, Dec. 5. The Seagull Shop will provide free coffee and hot chocolate and the commissioners agreed to have the gate in the fence open for the event. A Polar Bear Dip will be held at the beach on New Year's Day to benefit two charities. The sponsors are arranging for an ambulance and have asked us to provide a life ring.

BUDGET AND FINANCES: Cerina reported that, from January to May 2009, the Parks Commission had about \$70,000 in expenses. This included the major repairs to the art gallery, as well as the cost of finishing the Learning Center. The commissioners are committed to significantly lowering this amount for 2010, by carefully watching expenses. Their goal will be to become financially self-sufficient in a year or two. At the next meeting, Cerina will provide the preliminary budget for 2010. Gordon is still planning a tour of all the properties with the other commissioners.

LIGHTHOUSE APARTMENT: Newcastle Square Realty recently rented the apartment for an additional weekend. The rental listing agreement with Newcastle Square for 2010 has been signed. The realtor has supplied a report of tenants' comments for the past season, including suggestions for some minor repairs and items that could be purchased for the apartment. Gordon will need to check with the fire department regarding the safety of installing screens on the fire escape door.

PEMAQUID GROUP OF ARTISTS: Gordon has notified the Pemaquid Group of Artists that any interior painting and floor refinishing that they would like to do has been approved. Gordon also noted that the commission recently spent about \$15,000 in repairs to the art gallery and that an individual space rental per artist is needed. After discussion and on a motion by Cerina, seconded by Paul, the commissioners unanimously voted to charge \$100 per season per artist for showing their work in the art gallery. The rental fees would be collected by the Pemaquid Group of Artists and then paid to the commission. The commissioners will attend the selectmen's meeting on Dec. 2 to have them consider this decision.

The next meeting will be held on Tues., Dec. 15 at 6:00 p.m. at the Bristol Town Office.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Laurie Chandler, Secretaryhhhh