

**Bristol Parks & Recreation
Ellingwood Information Center
December 1, 2020**

*Commissioners present: Clyde Pendleton, Sandra Lane, Laurie Mahan
Also present: Lara Sargent*

Meeting called to order at 6:04 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

Laurie made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 17th meeting, Sandra seconded, and motion carried.

Food Donations:

Food donations have been dropped off at Ellingwood at a steady pace for the last month. The community has shown incredible generosity for people in need. The message on the digital sign informs people as they are driving by that they can donate food right at Ellingwood which makes it very convenient. Almost every day someone drops off food. Last week a check for \$200 and ten \$20 Hannaford gift cards were dropped off for the New Harbor food pantry. Having this information on the digital sign has proven to be a great benefit to the town.

Holiday Decorating:

Parks is getting ready to decorate the parks for the holidays. Antique, wooden lobster traps have been purchased which will be filled with green evergreens, white lights and red berries and have a bow on the top. These will be put in six parks: Ellingwood, the Swimming Hole, Pemaquid Beach, Pemaquid Point Lighthouse, Moxie Cove and possibly Hanna Landing. The Town Office and New Harbor Fire Station will each have one too. Parks purchased extra traps to possibly be decorated and sold as a fundraiser for \$100 each. If they do not sell this year, the traps will be used for decorating or as part of a fundraiser next year. Once the parks are decorated, people will be able to drive to each park to see the decorations. This will be on the Parks website, Facebook page, digital sign and a press release will be issued to the LCN. There will be lobster traps, wreaths, Christmas trees, lights, etc. The Parks Department felt this would be a safe, holiday activity at a time when the community could use some holiday cheer.

Beach:

The entrance gate to the beach will remain open through the holiday season so people can drive in to see the decorations. Someone had reported that the gate to the beach, at the end of the access path, had been open. Clyde saw that the padlock was broken off, so he sealed the gate shut. He also put a 2x4 board across the access path, attached to trees, because someone had been seen driving a car down there.

Town Landings:

Clyde and Lara attended a Selectman meeting to discuss getting some consistency at the town landings regarding boat storage. The Selectman, Harbor Committee and Parks will set up a meeting to determine wording for an ordinance about what would be allowed and how it would be enforced. A truck had been parked at New Harbor landing making it difficult for the float haulers to work around and Lara was able to track down the owner who removed it. There are two boat trailers at Hanna Landing that belong to a company out of Orrington. Lara sent a letter informing them those need to be removed ASAP. There is a boat at Hanna Landing that is in the way for float storage so Lara will contact this boat owner about removal. The other boats at New Harbor Landing will be discussed when the group meets.

Teespring:

The Teespring online merchandise store finally got linked correctly to the PayPal account. The overall profit for Parks is around \$400 not the \$600 as previously reported. Teespring had an issue with how they were reporting profits but after Lara added up all the sales, the \$400 looks correct. This way of selling merchandise is effortless and costs Parks no upfront costs. Sales have picked up recently, probably due to holiday shopping.

Budget:

The group discussed preparing for the 2021 budget. The net cash position going into 2021 is currently \$147,290 but there is still \$15,000 left to get from the LWCF grant and the Commissioners decided to reimburse \$10,000 (out of the Lighthouse Special Capital Reserve) for Lighthouse expenses which totaled over \$17,000.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.