

**Bristol Parks & Recreation  
Ellingwood Information Center  
March 15, 2018**

*Commissioners present: Clyde Pendleton, Laurie Mahan, Sandra Lane*

*Also present: Lara Sargent, Todd Richards, Nate Curtis & family, Warren and Beth Busted, Michelle Walsh*

*Meeting called to order at 6:07 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance*

**Minutes:**

Lane made a motion to approve the minutes from March 6th, Mahan seconded and motion carried.

**Playground need:**

Nate Curtis and his family attended the meeting to discuss the need for a public playground in Bristol. Curtis had contacted the Director regarding the lack of public playgrounds in the area and the Commission invited him to attend a meeting to discuss his ideas. Pendleton stated that the Commission felt a playground at the beach was needed and asked the Curtis' what their ideas for a playground involves. The Curtis' explained that a playground not connected to the school would be more helpful for the younger families since they cannot use the school's during the school day. They expressed their desire to help fundraise for this and they are very willing to get this project going. This would be for locals and for tourists so would benefit many families from near and far. Sargent provided the Curtis' with a catalog of playground equipment to look through to start getting ideas.

**Triathlon Planning:**

Todd Richards, Michelle Walsh and Warren and Beth Busted attended the meeting to discuss Triathlon planning. The group went over the responsibilities for each party. Sargent provided an update on the Timing, Safety Plan and Coast Guard Permit. Richards will add emergency contacts and text info to the registration form. Warren and Beth provided info on sponsorship. The group thought the proceeds from the triathlon could possibly go toward a new playground at the beach – after hearing the concerns from the Curtis family. An update to the planning will be discussed at the 4/24/18 meeting.

**Freedom of Access Act Training:**

Sargent provided training information on the Freedom of Access Act. The Commissioners and Director will complete the necessary paperwork to show they have completed the training and submit to the Town Office.

**Hostile Situation Training:**

Sargent presented an opportunity to the Commissioners for Hostile Situation Training. Sargent and the Commissioners will attend the training on 4/11/2018.

**Lighthouse Park Opening Day:**

Sargent received a phone call asking about the opening day for Lighthouse Park. The Commission discussed and decided that Wednesday 5/9/2018 would be the opening date. Sargent will respond to the inquiry with the opening date and also contact the Friends of Pemaquid Point Lighthouse to inform them of the opening date.

**Drop Box at Ellingwood:**

Sargent suggested that a drop box be installed at Ellingwood Information Center. This would make it easier for residents to drop off registrations for Parks programs or any other information for parks. Sargent will check out the one at the town office and the cost to see if that is a good one for Ellingwood.

**Youth Sports Update:**

The Youth Sports program at BCS has continued to grow since the last meeting. The session for grades K-4 maxed out at 40 participants and registration had to be closed since this reached the capacity for two coaches. Thankfully there have been volunteers assisting with the program – some students from BCS but also parents and Commissioners. The evening session for grades 5-8 has been very successful with 29 participants working on specific baseball and softball skills while having a great time. The Parks Department has realized how important this program is for the community and plans to continue to offer similar programs in the future.

**Fireworks Barge:**

Sargent provided an update on further fireworks barge research. Another shipyard had given a quote of 15-20k for a fireworks barge which is 3-4 times more than the last quote. Sargent left a message with another shipyard and is waiting to be contacted. She also contacted a local person who did not have a barge that was big enough.

**Town Meeting:**

The Commission discussed the plan for the Town Meeting and what information would be included in the Parks presentation.

**Public Comments:**

Lane made a motion to end the meeting at 9:02, Pendleton seconded and motion carried.

**Meeting adjourned** at 9:02 p.m.