

**Bristol Parks & Recreation
Ellingwood Information Center
January 4, 2022**

Commissioners present: Sandra Lane, Clyde Pendleton, Laurie Mahan

Also present: Lara Decker, Pat Porter, Chris Hall, Chad Hanna, Kristine Poland, Paul Yates

Meeting called to order at 6:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

Clyde made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 21st meeting, Sandra seconded, and motion carried.

Marine Science Camp:

Lara spoke with the marine science camp founder who said the camps don't usually have more than 24 kids. She asked what the flat fee would be in addition to the admission fee. Lara asked the commissioners if the flat fee of \$500 changed now that the number of campers is known. The group decided to just have them pay the normal admission fees.

Wedding Brochure:

Pat asked the commissioners if they had further input about the Pemaquid Beach Wedding Venue brochure. Pat talked with Tammy Legault from Mimi's on the Beach and found out she would like to be in the brochure and will be getting their liquor license this spring. Laurie suggested using Tammy as a resource for helping with the brochure since she does web design. Sandra suggested that for all events that have alcohol, security should be present. She believes that any way the town can be protected is a good precaution to take. The group decided to ask for proof of insurance by all vendors who will be listed in the brochure. The group also thought the Bristol Parks logo should be put on the front of the brochure.

Parks Director/Maintenance Position:

The group discussed advertising the Parks Director position. Pat agreed to help in the interim until someone is hired. She could work approximately 10 hours a week with coding bills, timecards, answering emails/phone calls, responding to wedding inquiries, area maps, etc. Laurie asked when the position would be advertised and how long they would take to find someone, and Clyde responded that it should be advertised immediately, and the search would be on until someone was found. Kristine recognized that the park staff is strong and will be able to open the parks regardless of someone being found right away. The group talked about a possible candidate for the position who is very qualified but hasn't yet decided if she will apply.

Clyde brought up the recurring idea of dissolving the Parks Commission now that there is a director. Chad responded that many people have asked this over the years, but he explains to them that this is how the town voted to set it up and nobody has ever demanded to dissolve it. It was recognized that adding Parks to the Selectmen duties would add a lot of work. Paul said that sometime residents feel that the revenue could put toward other town projects, not just the parks. Chad said that the current set up works well for the town and people seem to be content with how things are working.

Clyde asked if the selectmen were still interested in hiring another maintenance person to share with the highway department. Chad agreed that they would still like to move forward with filling this position. Kristine asked if it mattered if the director was hired before this maintenance/highway position and the commissioners said it did not matter since the maintenance person would be working for the highway department for the next three months anyway.

Chris asked to discuss the bonuses for Parks employees from the ARPA funds similar to the way it was divided among the Bristol Fire and Rescue. Chris asked if the initial money could come out of Parks Reserves and then have it put on the town warrant to be reimbursed to the Parks Reserve from the ARPA funds after the town meeting. The selectmen agreed that this was a good idea.

2022 Budget:

The group finished working on the 2022 Parks budget.

Other Business:

Chad asked if there has been any chatter about the lighthouse tower being turned back over to the town. Chris said things are at a standstill for the time being, but things looked hopeful this past year. Chad wondered if our Senators should be contacted again to see if they could be helpful.

The selectmen thanked Lara for her dedication to the town.

Public Comments:

Clyde made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50, Laurie seconded, and motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.