

**Bristol Parks & Recreation
Ellingwood Information Center
January 17, 2017**

Commissioners present: Clyde Pendleton, Sandra Lane, George Sawtelle

Also present: Chris Hall, Sandee Brackett, Chuck Hanson, Robert Davidson, Stu Mason

The meeting started at 6:21 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

Lane made a motion to accept the minutes from January 10th. Sawtelle seconded and motion carried.

Meeting with Auditors:

The Town Administrator was requested to schedule a meeting with the Town's Auditor, Bill Brewer, on Monday January 23rd at 9 am following the Selectmen's meeting with the Auditor.

Parks Director:

Further discussion on the draft Job Description handed out on January 10th was tabled until next meeting. The Town Administrator was requested to review and mark up the draft before the next meeting.

It is hoped to finalize the Job Description by the end of January and advertise the position in early February. The hire would not be the subject of a separate line item on the Town Meeting warrant.

Snack Shack:

Stu Mason was invited to present his case for retaining the Snack Bar contract. He made a lengthy presentation covering the events of last summer, his personal difficulties and how he has overcome them including extended treatment at a facility in Florida, and requested that he be allowed to continue the contract for the coming season. He committed that, if allowed to continue, he would personally be at the beach every day of the season; would install an ice-cream stand on the beach; would remove the lead paint identified in part of the Snack Shack; and would prepay the Commission before opening day. He also stated that he would donate all his equipment and improvements to the Town upon his completion of the contract. Ideally he would like two more years at the beach.

There was discussion of the practice of staff paying half-price for meals and soda, which Mason agreed would continue.

The Commission thanked him for his presentation and agreed to table the matter to the next meeting.

Checking Account:

It was noted that, per discussion with Jessica Westhaver, a separate checking account is unnecessary as she will reconcile the Parks & Recreation transactions at the end of each month for reporting to the Commission.

S. Brackett, from the floor, questioned the location and size of the Parks & Recreation Department's reserves. In discussion, it was pointed out that these reserves should not only be sufficient to carry the Department each year until the flow of summer revenue, but also were a valuable 'float' for the Town which reduces the need for tax anticipation notes.

Drones:

Consideration of the possible need to regulate drones was tabled until the next meeting.

Wedding Refund Policy:

Tabled until January 24.

Other fees:

Tabled until January 24. Noted that the draft budget, to be presented to Selectmen on January 18, is based on the new fee structure.

Electronic Sign:

Pendleton raised the idea of sharing the cost of a new sign with other Town departments. A public comment from R. Davidson objected to electronic signs as contrary to the image of the Town, pointing out the ugliness and inappropriateness of the one at the Damariscotta Baptist Church. Pendleton said that there is a wide range of sizes and flashiness of such signs; not all are gaudy.

Other business:

An inquiry had been received regarding the use of the beach for riding horses in the off season. Permission was given for such use, subject to the usual clean-up regulation.

Agreed that in future all regular Commission meetings would be held at the Ellingwood Information Center.

A motion was made by Pendleton to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Lane, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.