

**Bristol Parks & Recreation
Ellingwood Information Center
July 18, 2023**

Commissioners present: Laurie Mahan, Sandra Lane

Also present: Shelley Gallagher, Pat Porter

Meeting called to order at 6:05 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

Sandra made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 11 meeting, approval, Laurie seconded, and motion carried.

New Business

- A. Rachel called Shelley to ask about the fireworks requirements for shooting them off at the beach, and if it is required to shoot them from a float vs from the sand. She said she was looking at the Old Bristol Days budget and thought if it was required to shoot them from a float, it might be better paid for by the town OBD funds. From there, there was a discussion of who pays for what items, what the town pays for, what parks pays, what are donations, etc. Traditionally, Parks paid for the float for the fireworks, but that was when OBD was at the Fort so the cost to Parks was limited to just the float. With moving it to the beach, the cost to Parks has gone up significantly with having to staff for cleaning, trash, parking, etc on top of the cost of the float. Shelley said she would find out from Rachel what the town pays for and if it is possible for the town OBD funds to pay for part of the float since many of the other costs from prior years like security, tent rental, porta potties, etc are no longer an expense.

Old Business

- A. The beach has been slow to start the season with the bad weather and is down in revenue. It was discussed to change the hours to allow for more afternoon hours when the beach is busiest. Clyde suggested staying open until 5 in previous conversations with Laurie and Shelley. Shelley said looking at Clover, the admissions in the hour from 8-9 are minimal and barely cover the cost of staff so if we extend later and want to save money, we could just push everything back an hour to open an hour later and close an hour later. The extra hour in the afternoon will allow people to bring back their rental chair and umbrellas later, so they are also more likely to rent later in the day. The restrooms would stay open an hour later so they would be open through the late afternoon/ evening for this who like to have dinner at the beach. Laurie and Sandra both said with sales that are that small in that 8-9 am hour, it makes sense to not be open during that hour to save money. Laurie called Clyde (who was out of town but available by phone) to get his input and he agreed to push the hours back by an hour. Laurie made a motion to open the beach an hour later, and close an hour later, Sandra seconded and it passed unanimously.

Amended at 8/1/23 Meeting- the beach will open at 8:00 and close at 6:00. Tickets will be taken 8:00- 5:30 daily, and the restrooms will be open until 6:00.

Public Comments

Laurie moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:01pm.