

**Bristol Parks & Recreation  
Ellingwood Information Center  
September 19, 2023**

*Commissioners present: Laurie Mahan, Sandra Lane*

*Also present: Shelley Gallagher, Pat Porter*

*Meeting called to order at 6:01 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.*

**Minutes:**

Sandra made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 5 meeting, approval, Laurie seconded, and motion carried.

**New Business**

- A. Tropical Storm Lee hit on Saturday and we were lucky to not get too much damage in the parks.
  - a. At Ellingwood, one of the trees by the kayak launch broke near the top and will need to be cut down, and some branches were lost on a few other trees in the park.
  - b. The Lighthouse did not have power for 2 full days (Saturday and Sunday). The highest gust before the power went out was 58 mph at the weather station there on site. Most people followed the rules and stayed off the rocks, but some tried to go down there and had to be told to come back up. On the Friday before the storm hit and right before we roped off the rocks, it was reported by a local on Facebook that a tourist was knocked down by a wave on the rocks and had to be grabbed to keep him from getting pulled out. While that was not independently verified, it was verification that closing the rocks was the right thing to do to keep people safe. Even with them closed and no power, Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> was the busiest day of the entire year for us there, and our Clover machines were able to handle transactions even without power.
  - c. The beach lost a lot of sand and formed cliffs between 2 feet and over 3 feet high, but no dune was lost, and none of our new growth was lost. On Friday before the storm, Shelley put stakes in at the edge of the dunes and took pictures so we would know exactly how much difference there was. Because Sunday was supposed to be a nice day, Steve went in early Sunday morning to the beach with the tractor and leveled the cliffs into ramps so it would be safer for people. The 2 foot tall cliff was just 9 feet from the end of the boardwalk which could have been dangerous if he had not leveled that into a ramp. We will keep an eye on the sand and see how much comes back before next season.

**Old Business**

- A. We discussed updates to several of the end of season projects the maintenance staff had on their list to complete.
  - a. The seaweed machine has been winterized and put away at Hanna Landing for the off season. The tractor was also winterized, but had to be used due to

the storm so will need to be cleaned again before putting it away for the season.

- b. A lift was rented so this week the maintenance staff are replacing the trim around the roof line at Ellingwood, then will bring the lift to the Learning Center to replace the trim under the roof line there. The wood has completely rotted in both locations so will be replaced with composite material that will hold up better in the elements.
- c. Once the roof line at the Learning Center is done, the front entrance and trim will be painted there using the lift.
- d. After the work with the lift is completed, Steve will be adding flashing at Ellingwood over the gutters. The gutters were added to keep the steps and ramp dry in the winter so it doesn't freeze, but the gutters have a gap between the roof and gutter where water comes down so he is going to add flashing over it to keep the water from coming down.

### **Public Comments**

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