

**Bristol Parks & Recreation
Ellingwood Information Center
May 19, 2020**

Commissioners present: Clyde Pendleton, Sandra Lane, Laurie Mahan

Also present: Lara Sargent, Candy Congdon, Pat Porter, Sarah Plummer, Michele Digirolamo

Meeting called to order at 6:03 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

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

Lighthouse Park COVID-19 procedures:

The group reviewed and discussed COVID-19 procedures for both visitors and staff for Lighthouse Park. Lara had previously sent these to Lynn Martin, Bristol's workplace safety consultant, Chris Hall and Chief Paul Leeman. Chris had suggested making hand sanitizer available to the public at the entrance of the Fishermen's Museum. Lara ordered a touch-free dispenser to be mounted on the wall. There will be hand sanitizer for staff available in the booth and Fishermen's Museum. The procedures for visitors will be given at the booth along with the brochure for Lighthouse Park. Lara also sent the procedures to the Art Gallery president, Bob Vaughn, who got input from their board. Their suggestions were included in the procedures to be given to visitors. The Lighthouse Tower will not be opening because of the inability to distance in that small space.

LHP Learning Center Events:

The Friends of Colonial Pemaquid have asked if the events scheduled for the Learning Center will need to be cancelled. Don Loprieno said that last year there were over 50 people at many events. The Commissioners decided that all events planned in the Learning Center should be cancelled since the space would not allow many people to be in there at six feet apart plus disinfecting the space and all the chairs would be difficult. Clyde made a shot into the trash can.

Ellingwood Park COVID-19 procedures:

COVID-19 procedures were given to the Commissioners to review for both visitors and staff at Ellingwood Park. Lara had sent these to be reviewed by Lynn Martin, Chief Paul Leeman, and Chris Hall prior to the meeting. Lynn suggested having a table near the door at Ellingwood so that if people did come inside, they were kept near the door only which would limit their exposure inside. Staff will mostly try to go outside to renew passes, assist visitors with new passes or to provide requested information like area maps.

Pemaquid Beach Opening:

The Commissioners discussed the opening date of Pemaquid Beach. Clyde suggested opening the last week in June since the beach has had a lot of activity. Laurie asked what still needed to be done. Painting, water testing, setting up rentals, setting up the nature center, planting dune grass and a few other odds and ends need to be done still. After looking at the calendar, the Commissioners discussed opening June 19th and the group felt like the beach could be ready by then.

There have been questions about the various classes normally held at Pemaquid beach such as Yoga and Tai Chi. Sarah Plummer attended to discuss her proposal for class which is the same as prior years which would be offered Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 8-9 am starting June 20th. Sarah asked if masks would be required if people were 6 feet or more apart. The Commissioners felt that masks would not need to be required if people are able to be at least six feet apart. Sarah uses a speaker that allows people to hear her and be very far apart. Michelle attended to discuss the same class set up but offering it on Wednesdays. This would work if it rained so the classes could use the covered eating area. The Commission discussed allowing these classes but with the requirement that people stay six feet apart. Ocean Blue Fitness has asked to host classes at the beach at the beginning or end of the day. The Commission would like to have someone attend the next meeting to discuss this.

The triathlon timer has informed parks that they would not be providing a refund on the \$1250 deposit for their timing services now that the triathlon has been cancelled. The group discussed that this was unfortunate since the situation is beyond Parks control. A different timer may be researched for the future.

Beach Pavilion Update:

The final things to be done at the pavilion are installing hand dryers and connecting power to the garage and bandstand. The builders are still waiting for bolts to be delivered to finish up the locks to the bathroom. The donation box still needs to be installed, painting needs to be finished and then rooms just need to be set up. Paul Dimauro, the electrician for the job, has offered to donate and install some lighting for the boardwalk. Paul Leeman III and Neal Kimball would like to donate something to the Park that would have a plaque on it and have asked the Commission if there is something specific that the park would like. The Commission discussed benches as something the park could use.

Staffing – Executive Session:

The Commission went into Executive session MRSA 405(6A) at 8:20 to discuss staffing. Executive session ended at 8:20.

Public Comments:

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.