

**Bristol Parks & Recreation
Ellingwood Information Center
August 21, 2018**

Commissioners present: Clyde Pendleton, Laurie Mahan, Sandra Lane

Also present: Lara Sargent, Todd Richards, Pat Porter, John Porter, Robin Mahan, Jose Douglas

Meeting called to order at 6:02 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

Lane made a motion to approve the minutes from August 7th, Mahan seconded, and motion carried.

Triathlon Update:

The triathlon is five days away and there are currently 107 participants signed up. There has been an outpouring of positive feedback and support from the public regarding this event. The Commission discussed final tasks to be accomplished. The Mahan's discussed placement of the buoys and how to measure the distances. Final placement of volunteers throughout the race was discussed. More signs will be made for identification of the ham radio vehicles, so participants know who to notify of injuries or issues.

Rider Mower Replacement:

One of the rider mowers used by the maintenance crew needs to be replaced. It has 980 hours on it and is starting to need repairs. A similar mower with a slightly larger deck will cost \$2,400. Maintenance would like to keep the old mower as a back-up but purchase a new one to use for weekly mowing. Pendleton made a motion to purchase the new mower, Mahan seconded, and motion carried.

Beach Wheelchair donation:

Parks has received a donation of a wheelchair to be used on the beach. It has large tires and is very easy to push. A visitor from Massachusetts had called Sargent a few months ago to inquire about donating it. He had made the chair for his mother who had passed away recently, so he was looking for a place it could be used. Last week he dropped it off at Pemaquid Beach and a woman noticed it immediately and remarked that she wished she could use it - she clearly had some medical issues that made it difficult for her to get out to the beach. The Gator would be helpful in getting her to the beach, but the wheelchair allowed for her to remain seated with her feet propped up throughout her visit. Sargent and Lane helped her out to the beach in the wheelchair and the woman was very appreciative to have the wheelchair to use for her visit. The donation will certainly be appreciated by many park visitors in the future.

Commercial:

A commercial was filmed this past week at Pemaquid Point Lighthouse Park. The group was very easy to work with and the project caused very little disruption to normal daily procedures. In fact, many visitors enjoyed watching the set. The maintenance crew, director and a commissioner were onsite to assist as needed and Parks received \$3,000 for the location fee. The Commission discussed where to deposit this unexpected income. Pendleton made a motion to put it in Miscellaneous Revenue, Mahan seconded, and motion carried.

Ballfield:

A staff member recently noticed warning signs put up on the ballfield at Pemaquid Beach Park regarding pesticide application and brought it to the attention of the Parks Director. Sports Field Inc. applied pesticides on 8/16 to get rid of weeds in the infield and posted warnings about the application. Sargent and the Commissioners both appreciate the concern of the staff member. Sargent contacted Sports Field Inc. to ask if there are alternatives and she is waiting to hear back.

Ellingwood Hours:

Hours for Ellingwood Information Center after Labor Day were discussed. Last year, Ellingwood was staffed full time through the third week of September. The Commission discussed and decided to keep it open full time for the first two weeks of September for now.

Learning Center Meetings:

A member of Friends of Colonial Pemaquid inquired about using the Learning Center at Lighthouse Park for six meetings in the summer of 2019. He asked if they could get a discounted rate. Since the meetings are from 7:30-8:30 at night, a staff member would need to be present for each meeting to open and lock-up afterward. The group would also need to get event insurance as required by the Maine Municipal Association which costs \$77 per meeting. The Commission will discuss again once more information is gathered.

Memorial Dedication:

On Saturday, August 25, at 9:30 am, Bristol Parks will host a memorial ceremony for Bob Strachan, a former employee who passed away last November. A tree will be planted at Ellingwood Park and a rock with his name will be placed at the base.

Architect Contract:

The Commission discussed signing the architect contract. Pendleton made a motion to have Sargent sign the contract on behalf of the town, Mahan seconded, motion carried.

Public Comments:

Pendleton made a motion to end the meeting at 9:07, Mahan seconded, and motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.