

**Bristol Parks & Recreation  
Ellingwood Information Center  
February 9, 2021**

*Commissioners present: Clyde Pendleton, Sandra Lane, Laurie Mahan*

*Also present: Lara Decker*

*Meeting called to order at 6:06 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.*

**Minutes:**

Laurie made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 19<sup>th</sup> meeting, Sandra seconded, and motion carried.

**Area Maps:**

The Commission discussed ordering new Area Maps. It was determined that there are 9-10 boxes left over from 2020 because few were given out as a result of the pandemic. The group discussed ordering fewer or not ordering any new maps at all. There may be some businesses that no longer operate that would need to come off before a new map was made. The group decided to revisit the issue in late spring.

Pat Porter received a suggestion from one of the advertisers for Parks to provide a number to display that coincides with the number on the map. The group discussed that a sign could be confused with 911 signs or address signs, but people could provide their own if they prefer.

**Park Passes:**

Lara provided a suggested press release regarding park passes and asked for input from the Commissioners. This explained that taxpayers/residents would not be charged but they would still need to get their pass made and/or renewed each year. It reminded people that proof of being a taxpayer or resident would need to be provided. It also mentioned the discount park passes and the group discussed the pricing for these. The Beach passes sold very well in 2020 at a price of \$35 for 10 visits. The Lighthouse passes did not sell well but this was also due to admissions being down at the lighthouse from the lack of out of state visitors. Clyde made a motion to change the lighthouse passes to \$20 from \$25, Sandra seconded, and motion carried.

**Fee Schedule:**

The Commission reviewed the 2021 Fee Schedule. A change will be made to the float storage fee but since this has not been determined, Lara will add a note that says, "to increase in the fall of 2021". A suggestion for addressing the float increase in the billing letter was also discussed. The group discussed charging kids of nonresidents/nontaxpayers for entry to the parks. State parks charge \$1 for kids 5-11 years old and children under 5 are free. Laurie made a motion to implement the same policy for Bristol Parks and charge \$1 for kids 5-11 who are not children of residents or taxpayers, Sandra seconded, and motion carried.

**Grants Update:**

Lara reported that the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) has been submitted on behalf of the fire department. The grant was for \$67,108 toward funding of a new compressor system. Funding will be announced for this grant after April 30<sup>th</sup>. Lara is currently working on the Land and Water Conservation Fund grant application to help fund the renovations to the Swimming Hole/Fish Ladder park. This grant is due May 28 and will require detailed documentation of the plans for this park. The group discussed getting community input for the park through an online survey which could help focus the plans for the project. Lara contacted Julia Lane about getting a quote to bronze the beautiful sculpture she would like to donate to Pemaquid Beach Park from her father Cabot Lyford. Once the price of bronzing is obtained, Lara will apply for funding to help with this cost.

**Avian Haven:**

Sandra noticed a posting online from Avian Haven, a bird rehabilitation organization, and she asked if the Parks Department could do something for them. Avian Haven helped Parks last summer when a seagull had broken its wing at the beach. The group decided to send a thank you note for their help this summer and send a discount park pass for their volunteers.

**Signage:**

The group reviewed pictures of the parks signs to be replaced and discussed which signs should be replaced and which

could be cleaned up. Updates on the wording was discussed. No drones and no fishing and no smoking or vaping will be added to new signs. It was determined that certain things would not be included on the signs that could change, such as “cash or check only” or admission fees. Separate signs could be made for the information that is likely to change. Lara will get quotes for the new signs and bring to the next meeting.

**Other Business:**

The 2/16 meeting has been cancelled and the cancellation will be posted online.

**Public Comments:**

**Meeting adjourned** at 7:56 p.m.