

**Bristol Parks & Recreation
Ellingwood Information Center
April 6, 2021**

Commissioners present: Clyde Pendleton, Sandra Lane, Laurie Mahan

Also present: Lara Decker, Kathryn Armstrong, Todd Richards

Meeting called to order at 6:04 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

Clyde made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 16th meeting, Laurie seconded, and motion carried.

Triathlon Timing Reimbursement:

Todd suggested that Parks send out an email with a link to the Triathlon GoFundMe page he created to recover costs for the timing fee that was not refunded from the timer. He had raised \$100 so far and brought that to the group.

Park Sign Replacements:

A quote was obtained to replace park signs that are deteriorating. The quote to replace 8 signs, including the large entrance signs is \$1350.06. The new signs would be made of 6mm Dibond Baked Aluminum-faced expanded PVC with vinyl faces imprinted with Eco-Inks and laminated with clear vinyl. This type of sign would last longer than the wooden signs in the past. Laurie made a motion to accept the sign quote, Sandra seconded, and motion carried.

Kayak Racks:

The Parks Commissioners had previously discussed installing kayak racks at some town landings. Kathryn attended the meeting to discuss. A kayak rack has been donated and the installation was on the list of maintenance crew tasks for the spring. There have been current discussions with the Harbor Committee about not having floats stored at the landings so Lara wondered if kayak racks should wait to be installed until the storage issues at the landings is worked out. Kathryn pointed out that the ordinance for this would not be in place until next year so kayak racks could at least be installed for this year. The group discussed not charging for storage and Sandra suggested putting a donation box. If there was no fee, there could be a sign addressing storage guidelines such as "Store your kayak at your own risk. The Town is not liable for any loss or damage. Storage rack meant for frequent paddlers, not long-term storage. First come first serve. Locking/Securing kayak is recommended. Donations for this service are greatly appreciated." Lara will talk with Damariscotta about their storage guidelines/rules.

Electrostatic Sprayer:

Lara presented an electrostatic sprayer that could be used in the Parks for easy disinfection of surfaces. They are about \$190 each but they would require less time disinfecting because nothing needs to be wiped, just sprayed. The fire department uses these for their apparatus' and are pleased with the results. The CDC just announced that the disinfecting requirements do not need to be so frequent. Clyde suggested that Parks purchase one sprayer to be used in both Parks by the maintenance staff when cleaning bathrooms each week.

Snack Shack/Art Gallery Leases:

The group read through the 2021 leases for the Snack Shack and Art Gallery and discussed if any changes were to be made. The Commissioners signed the Art Gallery lease and will wait to sign the Snack Shack Lease at the May 4th meeting so that any changes could be discussed with Tammy Legault.

Mowing Contract vs. Maintenance Mowing:

An estimate was obtained for how much it would cost to contract out the mowing for the Lighthouse, Ellingwood and Swimming Hole for the season. This is being researched because it may be difficult to find another maintenance crew member to help with mowing/trimming. The Commissioners decided to put the contract out to bid to compare costs to having our maintenance crew mow/trim.

Donation:

Coastal Rivers Conservation Trust (CRCT) donated \$30,000 to Bristol Parks which had been promised toward the Pemaquid Beach Pavilion in 2019. Since the pavilion is now finished, CRCT has indicated that this donation has no restrictions. The Parks Commission greatly appreciates this donation and the honoring of the commitment made by

CRCT in 2019. Lara will send a thank you card and publish a thank you card in the LCN.

Merchandise:

Todd attended to discuss the merchandise order he compiled to get approval from the Commissioners. The group discussed selling shirts/sweatshirts at both the lighthouse and beach and or just selling merchandise at the beach. Laurie agreed with Todd that Parks would sell more at the Beach. The group decided to just purchase beach merchandise for now and see how they sell. More shirts/sweatshirts can be ordered easily. Todd offered to provide an inventory sheet to help with keeping track of what was selling. The Parks Commission and Director are very appreciative of the work Todd has done to help with merchandising. Todd also asked if Parks was interested in selling post cards. The group discussed having a photo contest to involve the community. The Commissioners decided to wait on the postcards for now.

OBD Fireworks:

OBD has been canceled for 2021 but the question still arose about the fireworks display. The group discussed how difficult it would be to monitor masks or social distancing in the dark and decided that the fireworks must be canceled as well. The Commissioners all agreed that any events after dark would be too difficult to monitor social distancing or masks. Lara will notify the fireworks and barge companies.

Gator:

The group discussed the use of the Gator now that the boardwalk is in place. It was only used a 1-2 times last season for visitors because people with walkers or in wheelchairs could get to the beach on their own. Parks had to rent a container last year to store the Gator. The issue of liability with the Gator was also discussed. It can be dangerous for staff to be maneuvering the Gator on a crowded beach. For now, the Gator will remain at Hanna Landing for the season to see if the need arises for it during the season. If not, Parks may sell it next year and purchase a beach wheelchair instead.

Other Business:

Public Comments:

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.