

**Bristol Parks & Recreation
Ellingwood Information Center
September 17, 2019**

Commissioners present: Sandra Lane, Laurie Mahan, Clyde Pendleton

Also present: Lara Sargent, Candy Congdon, Kathryn Armstrong, John Stolecki, Pat Porter

Meeting called to order at 6:05 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

Sandra made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 3rd meeting, Laurie seconded and motion carried. Laurie made a motion to approve the minutes from the bid opening on September 12th, Sandra seconded and motion carried.

Kayak Racks:

Kathryn and John attended to discuss a kayak rack at Hanna Landing. Kathryn said the last few years there have been at least 8 kayaks tucked into the grass. She thinks people would really appreciate kayak racks so they could secure their kayaks. Laurie asked if they would be a first come first serve basis and Kathryn thought they would be. She thinks it would fit into the mission of Parks and Rec because it would encourage people to get outside, get exercise and use the parks. She talked about how difficult it can be to transport the kayak so by keeping it onsite it would encourage more kayaking. Everyone agreed that it would probably be used and very popular. A sign could be posted that said "Use at your own risk". The group discussed where the rack could be placed at Hanna Landing. The group discussed how long the racks would be left out and decided it would depend on weather but the tentative dates would be May to October. Clyde suggested to put a donation box on the rack instead of charging a storage fee.

Benches:

There have been two recent inquiries regarding benches in the parks. Steve and Sandy Bolster have offered to donate a bench made by Mike Chesebro that is identical to the stained-glass bench that was already donated to Parks. The Commissioners discussed and one suggestion was to put the benches at Hanna Landing. The other inquiry was about another memorial bench that someone wants to purchase and donate. The group discussed replacing the bench without a back with one that matches the other new benches. Sandra made a motion to accept the donation of another matching bench for lighthouse park and the matching stained-glass bench, Laurie seconded and motion carried.

Ellingwood:

Ellingwood Information Center visitors have declined and the Commissioners discussed decreasing staffing hours. Clyde suggested closing during the week, starting Monday and staying opening on the weekends until Columbus Day.

Bike Racks:

Pat suggested getting a bike rack at Ellingwood. Laurie suggested that a rack could be built by the maintenance crew.

Electronic Vehicle Chargers:

Pat asked if she could get an estimate for an EV Charger and the group agreed that it would be fine. She also thought there was some money available from the state for this.

Beach Pavilion:

Clyde mapped out locations of the new telephone poles. By moving the poles to the side of the parking lot near the woods, it would save on wiring and conduits and also be better positioned for building a new maintenance garage in the future. Once that current garage is gone, that area could be used for additional parking.

Lara had checked out references, the Attorney General's Office and Better Business Bureau for the two bidders, Phi Builders and Ledgewalker Builders, and reported back to the Commission. The group discussed the pros and cons of both bidders. Both had a lot of experience but Phi's experience was more residential while Ledgewalker Builders have more commercial experience that includes restaurants. With the Snack Shack being part of this project, the restaurant experience was a plus. Phi builders would be building mostly offsite which the Commissioners felt could make oversight difficult. The Commissioners agreed that they liked that Ledgewalker Builders had stressed the importance of teamwork for this project and that Paul Leeman III and/or Neal Kimball would be onsite each day. Even though Ledgewalker Builders is \$75,000 more, the Commission agreed that Parks could ask the town for approval to take out a Line of Credit if the remaining funds for the project are not raised. The Commissioners decided that Ledgewalker Builders would be better suited for this project. Laurie made a motion to accept the bid from Ledgewalker Builders, Sandra seconded and motion carried.

Harbor Committee:

Clyde is going to the next Harbor Committee meeting because there is an old float to be removed from Hanna Landing. There was nothing written into the bid to build the float that mentioned disposal of the old float so Clyde wants to get that resolved. Clyde also wants to ask if all of the old boats should be paying for storage.

Public Comments:

Clyde made a motion to end the meeting at 8:40, Laurie seconded, and motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.