

**Bristol Parks & Recreation
Ellingwood Information Center
August 4, 2020**

Commissioners present: Clyde Pendleton, Sandra Lane, Laurie Mahan

Also present: Lara Sargent, Pat Porter

Meeting called to order at 6:00 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

Laurie made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 21st meeting, Sandra seconded, and motion carried.

Pemaquid Beach Park:

There has been a lot of boats/watercraft coming close to shore at the beach. Staff members have been able to send them away using the siren on the bullhorn but there has been concerns from beachgoers about safety – particularly when two jet skis approached through a crowded swimming area. A concerned resident called and asked if a nylon rope with buoys attached would be possible. Lara contacted the Coast Guard to find out what they would recommend for ways to prevent this and they were going to research and get back to her. Clyde suggested repainting the sign that says no boats within 300 feet.

A new step at the end of the boardwalk was built to help people get off the end. It seems to be working well for people that had difficulties before. Lara received a quote from an Amish builder to build a roll up ramp for the end of the boardwalk which would be 6ft x 9ft and would have ½ inch spaces between the slats. The total would be \$792.91, and it would arrive in 3-4 weeks. Clyde suggested letting it go for now and see if the new step helps enough.

Sandra has been monitoring masks while on the overlook at the end of the boardwalk and doing a great job at making people feel safe. People have been behaving better about wearing masks as they have gotten used to the routine at the beach.

The recent shark attack in Harpswell and other shark sightings near John's Island have been concerning for beachgoers. Signs have been posted advising visitors and they are also warned when going through the ticket booth. State Park beaches have now eased the water restrictions due to the shark attack but signs will remain up at the beach advising visitors.

A quote was provided by Homeport to put shades in the ticket booth at the beach which totaled \$1,172. The Commissioners decided that curtains would solve the security problem of having money exposed during counting at the end of the day and it would be much cheaper.

Lighthouse Park:

A composite picnic table is being donated to Lighthouse Park in memory of someone who loved to visit. Lara is waiting to hear back from the company about the order of Adirondack chairs, benches and the picnic table that will be installed at the beach and lighthouse.

Financials:

A snapshot of the financial position for Parks was provided. Considering the reduced income due to COVID and the extra money spent on the pavilion, the group was pleased with the current position.

LCN Ad:

Lara provided an updated Thank You Ad for the LCN. The Commissioners approved and Lara will send to the LCN for next week.

Public Comments:

Meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.