

**Bristol Parks & Recreation  
Ellingwood Information Center  
September 15, 2020**

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

*Also present: Lara Sargent, Meredith Fossett*

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

**Minutes:**

Clyde made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 1<sup>st</sup> meeting, Laurie seconded, and motion carried.

**Ellingwood Boat Launch:**

A frequent user of the boat launch, next to Ellingwood, contacted Chris Hall about the mudhole at the corner of the asphalt apron. He asked if it could be solidly filled with either gravel or more asphalt. He thinks it is the result of the culvert in the side of the hill pitching water down that way. He also suggested that some kind of a diverter be included to prevent it from happening again. This request comes from the same person who will be replacing the worn-out wood shingles on the sign kiosk. The Commissioners looked at it and did not see an issue currently, since it is dry. They agreed that the Parks Department would put it on hold since this issue was not budgeted for in the current year.

**Webcam at Lighthouse Park:**

When the seagull shop burned down last week, it took the Pemaquid Point Association (PPA) webcam. The PPA has asked if they could mount a camera on a pole on or near the fence to provide a similar view to the old webcam. The Commissioners thought this would be fine but wondered how the camera would get power. If they have a way to set it up, then the Commissioners agreed that it was fine.

**Staff Member:**

Meredith attended the meeting to present a gift to Lara - a beautiful, quilted piece of art. It is a 20x20 quilted scene of Lighthouse Park. This touching gift is so appreciated. Thank you, Meredith.

**Beach Closing Tasks:**

The beach is officially closed, and it was a very successful season. Clyde directed the maintenance crew to take down the big sign and to move the picnic tables and trash cans under the covered eating area. All the debris from the beach was brought to the dump and it took two loads at \$.08 a pound. Clyde thinks that since the split on the dump is 60% Bristol and 40% South Bristol, he thinks Parks should only have to pay 40% of this fee to South Bristol. He will get on an agenda for a Selectmen's meeting to discuss. The small port-a-potty will replace the handicapped port-a-potty. The storage container will be picked up next week and the Gator will be stored inside the nature center. The dumpster will be dumped this week and then it will be dumped whenever we call. The tractor is done being fixed and Sean will pick that up on Wednesday. Frank will rake the beach one more time to test out the tractor to be sure it is all fixed. The group discussed how Clyde put in a lot of time, after work, raking the beach this summer. His effort was very much appreciated by beachgoers and people expressed this frequently to the Commissioners, Director, and staff. The garage and old ticket booth at the beach have been painted grey to match the pavilion which really tied it all together. Clyde asked the maintenance crew to paint the dugouts, the storage shed and the back of the scoreboard sign. The mop sink still needs to be installed in the snack shack. Clyde talked with Sean about putting the tractor and trailer at Hanna Landing and the pickup could be put in the garage at the beach. If it fits, Sean thought this would make it easier to access the truck if needed.

**Lighthouse Park Painting:**

The Lighthouse Keeper's house is painted and looks great. The electrical meter box needs to be painted still. The maintenance crew is working on scraping and painting the lattice work. The bell tower siding is heavily damaged and when the painter tried to scrape it, he found it was in need of new shingles. Clyde had him paint that side and left the others since they need to be re-shingled. Clapboards on the back of the Keeper's House will also need to be replaced.

**Park Staff Party:**

The group discussed having a staff gathering outside somewhere, similar to the gathering last year. The group talked about having it at the Harbor Room outside on the deck. Lara will contact the Harbor Room about a gathering on

Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30.

**Park Admissions Update:**

Now that the beach is officially closed, the final admission revenue total for the season is \$132,955 which surpasses the projected revenue of \$126,000 by almost \$7000. The number of paying visitors at the beach in 2020 increased by about 800 visitors from 2019, despite COVID and the price increase. The lighthouse admissions are still down but September is going well, only about \$2000 behind last September, so hopefully this continues.

**Public Comments:**

**Meeting adjourned** at 7:55 p.m.