

**Bristol Parks & Recreation
Ellingwood Information Center
April 4, 2023**

Commissioners present: Clyde Pendleton, Sandra Lane, Laurie Mahan

Also present: Shelley Gallagher, Pat Porter, Allison Kelsey- Bryant, Sue Chmura

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

Minutes:

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

New Business

- A. Alison Kelsey- Bryant attended to talk about her business idea and ask if it is something we would be interested in doing. She has formed Pemaquid Picnic Company and would like to offer high end picnics at the beach over the summer. She would provide a low table, umbrella, water, and have different package options, and they would be offered in the late afternoons. She asked if that is something we would be interested in and if we could set aside a place for her if she has a picnic scheduled. She was told that setting aside an area for her may not be feasible with how busy the beach gets in the summer. We may be able to set aside an area at the end of the beach though we would not be able to block it off from other people walking by and children playing, etc. She would offer 2 hour blocks. She still needs to look into what insurance she would need as that would be a requirement if she was doing these at the beach, but business liability insurance should cover it if she has that for her business. Laurie made a motion to charge \$30 plus admission fees for each picnic event that would be scheduled, Clyde seconded and it passed unanimously. Alison will get back to us with dates she is looking at and her insurance information.
- B. We have recently had several people inquiring about renting the pavilion or space at the beach for reunions and other events. It would be a good source of additional revenue to be able to offer that, and we have tables and chairs at the lighthouse that can be brought down. People want a covered area, but the covered picnic area is for public use so we don't want to reserve that. A tent would be a great option, and it could be set up on the grass down by the stage. Parks has a tent currently, but it is very heavy and difficult to set up, or we can purchase one from Amazon. It was decided to check on the tent we have and see what kind of shape it is in. If it can be cleaned up and look nice, we will use that and just leave it set up for the whole summer. Shelley will have the maintenance staff pull that out to look at it and try to clean it. The fee for the rental was discussed as we want to charge enough to make it worth while for us setting it up, etc, but not too much so people choose not to do it and just take all of the picnic tables and stay there all day. A motion was made by Laurie and seconded by Clyde to charge \$300 plus a staffing fee for set up/ take down of \$25 for one staff, or \$50 for 2 staff which would be after hours rentals. The motion passed unanimously.

- C. Shelley has been thinking of different program ideas to offer to children over the summer and fall. An art class to be taught at the Lighthouse Learning Center in the fall would be a fun class, and could be taught by one of the Pemaquid Artists while their gallery is still open. The school bus runs down to the point so children could take the bus from school and the parents could pick them up after the class. Once we find an instructor we will have them tell us what supplies they will need. The other idea is a Lighthouse Camp which would be more for visiting children over the summer where they could learn about the history of the area, walk around and see the different plants and birds while learning about them, and have someone talk about the rock formations that make the point. This camp may have more issues as it would be working on ratios of children to adults and if it could be cost effective. I think there would be interest, we just need to work out the details a little better.
- D. Ben Pendleton would like to bring a group of people from the Coast Guard Chiefs Call to Initiation program to the lighthouse on Saturday April 22 to work on the gardens. Ben is a landscaper by trade and a Bristol resident so when he was tasked with thinking of a service project he thought of working on our gardens. He would have a group of people work on the gardens in the morning, then at noon we would have a volunteer with Friends of Pemaquid Lighthouse to go over the history of the lighthouse tower and let the people go up inside the tower. We would have a staff member at the Fishermen's Museum to go through the history of Pemaquid Point and the fishing industry around the area. This should be a great project and Shelley will be there all day helping and will organized the staff and tower volunteers for the history part of the day. After the gardens are cleaned out, we will post on facebook thanking them and also post to ask for flower donations if anyone wants to donate to the planting for the summer.
- E. Opening day was discussed for Lighthouse and Beach. May 10 (the Wednesday before Mother's Day) will be opening day at the lighthouse, and June 10 will be opening day at the beach for the weekend. If the weather is nice and we have the staff, we may open the beach for Memorial weekend and the first weekend in June. Opening full time at the beach is scheduled for June 17. The water will be turned on at the lighthouse May 1, and at the beach May 15.

Old Business

- A. We have quotes for foam insulation for the basement of the lighthouse from Seal It for \$4785, and from Quantum Performance Building for \$6650. A motion was made by Laurie to accept the quote from Seal It Insulation for \$4785, Clyde seconded and it was passed unanimously.
- B. A Quonset hut was found that will accommodate our tractor and seaweed machine at the beach, and has 2 doors so it can be driven in and out. The hut is 16x36x16 and the cost is \$3354 with free shipping. Laurie made a motion to purchase the Quonset hut, Clyde seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

Laurie moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm.

