

BELCHERTOWN PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 15, 2016

Present: Chris Daley, Nancy Kwiatkowski, Bill Vosburgh, Tilo Schiffer, Wilbur Quirk, Rob Opalenik, Linda Racicot

Absent: Nick O'Connor

Meeting called to order by Bill at 6:15 p.m.

REVIEW MINUTES

Minutes from May 11, 2016 meeting were reviewed. Nancy made a motion to accept the minutes from the May meeting, *Chris seconded, and motion passed 4-0-0.*

OLD BUSINESS

>Bill stated he wanted to make everyone aware that he sent a letter to the Selectmen and requested a new liaison.

>Rob said the new liaison for the Recreation Committee is Brenda Aldrich. Rob spoke with Brenda, who said she is excited to work with the Committee and Department.

>Rob talked to Steve, from the Highway Dept. about the determination of the 10K. They discussed leveling and raising a specific area the size of a soccer field. The 10K must be obligated by the end of this month, with the project due to start Aug/Sept.

>Tilo asked who this will affect in the fall

>Rob said field hockey teams will be in the area but will not affect their playing field.

>Bill asked if 10K will cover leveling, dirt and seed

>Rob said yes

>Tilo made a motion to make improvements at Foley Field, *Wilbur seconded, and motion passed 5-0-0.*

>Rob announced the outdoor basketball court has been completed with the exception of the new back boards. Adaptors need to be placed on the poles in order to put up the new backboards. Rob said the court did not drain well after a heavy rain.

>Nancy asked how come it wasn't leveled

>Rob said they were not contracted to level the court, the cost would have been astronomical to correct the drainage. A squeegee can be used after a heavy rain which will solve the issue

NEW BUSINESS

>Rob stated Wilbur and Chris have been approved for another term with the Recreation Committee

>Wilbur said he completed a 1 year term in Peggy's absent and is now renewed for a 3 year term. Wilbur requested to continue with the Finance Committee regarding CPC's.

>Everyone agreed

>Wilbur stated the windows for housing and Parsons stone wall passed.

>Bill requested the Committee consider a Friends the of Rec

>Rob said he spoke with Matt Jackson who is interested

>Nancy stated there were approximately 10 people on Friends of the Rec years ago and they raised thousands of dollars for any organization in town who was in need of equipment, etc.

>Rob suggested organizing a Friends of the Rec to handle the Tennis court project. Rob asked the Committee to consider a representative from each sports organization in town so there would be no special interest with projects.

- >Bill asked for confirmation regarding town policy that is the staff can not run or get paid for time involved with fundraising
- >Rob said correct
- >Wilbur stated that with fundraising efforts an x-ray machine was just purchased for Shiners at the cost of 1.4 million
- >Bill said McCarthy Pub, who has always run successful fundraisers, will be holding a fundraiser on the Common in July.
- >Rob informed the committee that Jill Pantos will be hosting a 5K run on Sept. 10
- >Rob stressed the budget is not going to improve so having a Friends of the Rec will be beneficial.

>Bill informed the Committee that there were 20 applicants for the Directors position. The committee decided to review the applications and select 10 applicants to be interviewed. After the interviews, the committee selected 3 applicants to pass on to the Selectmen for second interviews. The Selectmen are expected to make a decision as to who the new Director will be on June 27.

DIRECTORS REPORT

>Linda stated that registration numbers are now picking up for summer programs. There are two additional programs recently added, a 3rd to 5th grade summer basketball league, which has run previous seasons and a high school summer basketball league, both will be played on the reconditioned outdoor basketball court.

- >Bill asked if we could schedule our next meeting for July 13 in the hopes that Brenda and the new Director can attend the meeting.
- >Everyone agreed

Next meeting is Wednesday July 13, 2016 at 6:15 p.m. in the Recreation Conference Room.

- >Nancy asked if we could schedule a date for the Aug meeting, she may not be available for the July meeting
- >Bill said tentatively we will schedule for Aug 17 pending the new Directors availability

>Rob thanked everyone for all the support given to him over the years

Tilo made a motion to adjourn. *Nancy seconded, motion passed 5-0-0.*

Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.