

Town of Raynham, Massachusetts

558 South Main Street, Raynham, MA 02767
ph: 508.824.2707

Park & Rec Commission Mtg. 9/6/2016

MINUTES OF THE RAYNHAM PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION Regular Monthly Meeting, Sept. 6, 2016, 6:00 p.m. South School, 305 South Street East, Raynham, MA

In Attendance: Chairman Jim Brow, Commissioner Chris Shaw, Commissioner Jim Sullivan, Director Elizabeth Francis, and Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary SJ Blanchard.

Chairman Jim Brow called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. Chris S. made a motion to approve the minutes of the Aug. 9, 2016 meeting. Jim B. seconded the motion and the two voted in favor. Jim S. abstained from voting as he had missed the Aug. 9th meeting.

Liz reported that the “Bernie the Bus” playground riding apparatus has been received, built, and installed at the Monti preschool playground at Borden Colony, in time for this weekend’s Raynham Youth Soccer opening day. In addition, wood chips have been spread at all town playgrounds prior to today’s start of the new school year.

The Borden Colony lease for agricultural land rented by Tony Arruda has been signed off on by the Board of Selectmen and awaits Arruda’s signature.

Relative to the town’s outdoor basketball courts, Liz has submitted a preliminary funding request to the town’s Capital Planning Committee. She anticipates the receipts of written quotes from Stanley and Lopes for the paving work. Chris suggested that she consider asking JT Construction to also submit a quote for the job. She will also need to obtain quotes for the court’s painting; hoop quotes are \$750 each. She said that there is a chance that there will be no money available for fencing or guardrails. Chris pointed out that some funding for this project may have fallen under the Community Preservation Act had the town voted for it.

The following single fall field-use permit request was acted on:

- Depuy Synthes submitted a request to hold a team-building company outing near the Borden Colony gazebo on Wed., Sept. 28 between 12 and 4 p.m. They plan to have lawn games and food trucks. Liz advised them that they will need to obtain Board of Health approval for the food trucks. Chris made a motion to approve this request with a fee of \$120; Jim S. seconded and a unanimous vote followed.

Liz said that she has not yet received fall field-use applications from RYBSA.

The Chair noted that the Bettencourt Football Field will be rededicated on Sunday, Sept. 18 prior to the 1 p.m. game there. He asked that the Commissioners plan to attend the event.

He also advised Liz that the Giants football games which conflicted with LaLiberte's annual harvest fair have been rescheduled for other dates and times.

Chris inquired about the possible installation of lighting at the Burke Babe Ruth field next to the LB Merrill School. Liz cautioned that she would be hesitant about making any financial investments too close to the school in light of the fact that the school may at some point need to expand its footprint and construct additional classrooms.

Liz distributed FY16 year-end financial reports to the Commissioners, and pointed out that 98.34% of the budget was depleted, along with 63.66% of the Borden Colony funds. Revenue remaining in the Borden Colony revolving account reverts back to the department at year's end for spending in the following year.

Liz reported on the following:

- The Burke Soccer Field will be closing this fall and rested as it has taken a beating.
- Local contractor Keith Mosman will provide quotes for siding the garage at the 2000 King Philip Street rental residence and to build an overhang or awning at the front of the South School.
- The before- and after-school programs are at capacity with an additional 30+ families on wait lists. Currently, there is no more physical space or additional staffing available to expand the program to accommodate more children. The state, in its licensing scope, plans to start doing unannounced site visits.
- The town has been offered a donation of a lightning detector for Borden Colony. Liz is looking into the associated costs for its installation and ongoing maintenance.
- Liz received an email from Tyler Clark regarding the placement of geo-catches at the King Philip Street ballfields. Chris suggested that he be invited to the October commission meeting to provide more information.

It was noted that the school district has installed a playground at RMS for the preschool program housed there. It is unclear who will maintain this area. Further, can the Park & Rec Department continue buying the wood chips and sustaining the manpower needed to maintain all of the playgrounds in town without any assistance from the schools?

Josh Freeman of 15 Michael Road attended the meeting to inquire about the tennis courts at RMS. He stated that the nets have been down for more than two months and that the courts need repainting. In addition, he would like to have a practice wall installed there, as well as nighttime lights and access to restrooms. He said that his inquiries to the school department and its maintenance division have received no response. Liz said that she will address the nets issue with district maintenance head Al Baroncelli.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
SJ Blanchard
Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary

