

Sandown Recreation Commission
June 14, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Chairman George Blaisdell at 6:35 p.m. Members present were: John Donahue, George Blaisdell, Jessica Scarlet, Veronica Utman, and Cindy Bucu, new ex officio member from the Board of Selectmen. Also present was Deb Brown, Parks and Recreation Director.

The minutes of the April 5, 2017, meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes, as written, was made by Jessica Scarlet.

John Donahue seconded the motion.

There was no discussion.

The motion passed, with 4 in favor, and Ms. Bucu abstaining.

Ms. Brown noted that she would still like to fill 2-3 shifts per week of lifeguard positions. The beach is open 7 days a week. The most experienced lifeguard originally was not coming back this year at all, but now will be working 3 days a week. Another lifeguard can only work 2 days a week because she is working as a counselor (from Mon .thru Thur.; then as a life guard on Fridays and Sundays). So there is still a need of 16-24 hours. Ms. Brown has received two applications. One is not yet certified, but will take the class. The other applicant is already certified, currently at the Y in Haverhill, and has about 80 hrs. experience. Ms. Brown recommends hiring the second applicant.

Mr. Blaisdell made a motion to recommend to the Board of Selectmen the hiring of Hunter Conroy.

Mr. Donahue seconded the motion.

There was no discussion.

The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Brown has checked other towns regarding their policy on beach passes. The recommendation is to issue a pass to each person/resident in the family. Other towns also allow two guests per family member (which could strain our small beach). Different options were discussed. Ms. Brown will look into the cost of passes and report back to the Commission.

Ms. Brown brought up a refund which was overlooked from last year, for a boy who did not attend the summer program for two weeks, due to unexpected surgery. The parent provided all the necessary documentation. It was suggested that the refund be applied to the 2017 registration. Ms. Brown also had an over-payment which she needs to refund.

Ms. Brown updated the Commission on the playground equipment. A set of swings was purchased which were not appropriate for 2-5 year-olds. Families come to watch soccer, etc. and bring the smaller children. We have purchased a smaller set of swings with two bucket seats which is scheduled for installation this Spring. Also, when Ms. Brown attended the

January Recreation Convention, she received a donation of a “play cube” for ages 2-12 (worth about \$2300) from our equipment rep. This will be shipped when they schedule the installation of the swings. She has a quote for (2) spring riders for toddlers; and a moving sidewalk (12’ long) for balance, for ages 2-12.

We have encumbered funds (\$2011) for installation of the swings from last year; and there is \$2000 in the new equipment line. There are also developer donations for facility improvements for 2016 and 2017 (\$7000). Once she has finalized the funds available, Ms. Brown is going to request approval to purchase additional equipment, to be installed with the swings.

Also, every 5 years, Ms. Brown requests that the Commission invest in equipment to supplement the summer program. This has not been done since before 2012. Last year there was an overage that went through the Revolving Account, where we took in more than the amount expended (over and above reimbursing the Town for Payroll)...about \$875. She had mentioned at the time that she would like to use it for improving programming equipment.

Some possibilities are:

- (4?) soccer nets
- Portable basketball hoops (2?)
- Baseball helmets (20?)

She will finalize her requests with an estimate (\$875 - \$1000) for the Commission. Ms. Bucu suggested that donations could also be requested.

Ms. Brown also noted that Busby Construction, while doing work for the Town, scraped the roads to Miller Field and Garvey Recreation. It is now packed and basketball can be played.

Ms. Brown reported that the basement still has fans running. It will be re-treated to prevent mold. The building inspector will recommend a sealer for the foundation. Mr. Blaisdell suggested that minimal funds be spent at this time for repair....the pond is very close; and the new house under construction has much water in the basement. He suggests having a professional find the low spot in the basement, cut a hole in the floor, and install a sump pump. He noted that the building has been in existence for 10 years and this is the first year to experience the water problem.

Ms. Brown said that the Fire Chief and co. had visited last Thursday after work and investigated the brushy area (with shovels). They found what they thought was the perimeter drain. There was 10 years of growth – recommended excavation and clean-up of drain. Mr. Blaisdell stated that he would love to clean out the whole area, level it, and plant grass.

Ms. Brown is getting a quote from Wayne Britton to clear the perimeter drain. She will also ask Mr. Britton for ideas on the whole job. She has a quote from Gary for the sump pump:

(2) Sump Pumps (on opposite ends of the building)	
Parts and Labor	\$2200
(1) Pump – installed near well tank (low point)	\$1100

She will also pass this information on to the Town Administrator for possible use of town “disaster” funds (not covered by insurance).

Ms. Brown has only one quote on mowing. The supplier has offered to hold prices for two years. We are now in the first year of the new contract. He has asked if we want to do a two-year again, and he will hold the prices. Mr. Blaisdell agreed this is a good idea – this supplier does a good job and prices are reasonable. Ms. Brown noted that supplier spent two hours today at ball field going through irrigation system. He takes pride in his work. Ron DuLong was shocked to find that there are 7 zones (supposed to be 5); there are 14 heads on one zone (still one missing) on B Field. Ron oversaw the wiring and said “I know there are only 5 zones”. No one has access to well house except Ms. Brown...no keys given out.

(Old Home Days Committee Joined Meeting). Old Home Days will be held on Friday and Saturday, September 8 and 9.

Paula Gulla said that Erica had (6) craft vendors (no food) who would like to be inside from about 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Presently the St. Matthews Pancake Breakfast will be using the Rec. building until 10:00 a.m. The logistics of tables, transition, and A/C will be worked out.

Bob Brouder, Historical Society: some members would like to set up 40’ track on the field and give people rides on a small steam engine train (Friday night setup and Saturday rides). Discussion regarding location, supervision, insurance. Fee for rides will probably be charged.

Ms. Gulla asked if any special controls for ticks have been used on the field. Ms. Brown said “No” and there have been no issues this year.

Ms. Gulla reported that an OHD committee relative is involved in the Civil War Reenactment; they would like to perform this during Old Home Days. They would need to be able to stake tents the day before (no overnight; allocate space).

Ms. Gulla brought up the subject of insurance and inflatables. Inflatables are now being regulated like amusements (which means they have to be registered, inspected etc.). The Town’s insurance does not cover inflatables. (The Town insurance changed from LGC to

Primex July, 2016). In checking with Town Counsel re inflatables, they advised that the insurance company for the vendor for the inflatables had to have something that's called primary and non-contributory which means that their insurance company pays for the entire claim....the Town pays nothing. The vendor agreed to this, but noted that no other town has asked for this. Last year the Board of Selectmen paid for it (\$150). It covered the Town, and the insurance policy covered the event. This year the Old Home Day Committee is planning to absorb the cost; however, it would help if the Rec. Commission split the cost. Summer Rec. plans to rent an inflatable from the same vendor, and the policy would cover both events. Ms. Brown asked whose name the policy would be in. Ms. Gulla said the insurance certificate is in the name of the town, and could cover both dates (it is for a year). The vendor is the insured and the Town is the additional insured. Ms. Brown noted that we are paying for the vendors insurance for a year. It was suggested that the vendor pay at least 1/3. (Primex does not insure inflatables). Ms. Gulla will talk to the vendor again.

Ms. Gulla said there will be a Friday night Chili and Chowder Challenge, and Dance. She will take care of getting licenses needed, and removing any alcohol from the building after.

There is a woman who would like to use the water from the Rec. Building to make drinks (lemonade...), but there was some concern about the sulphur smell. Ms. Brown assured Ms. Gulla that this came from the drain and that the water had been tested and is OK.

The Sandown Old Home Days Committee exited the meeting.

The Commission returned to the subject of Miller Field irrigation.

Ms. Brown: We have 3 huge holding tanks inside the wellhouse. The pressure gauge (which is only an indicator) isn't working. The first thing we need to do is replace that....it is about a \$15-20 part. We get 60 gal. of water a minute from that. If the pressure is showing between 40 and 60 psi, there really should be no reason that B Field is lacking water...and there is not a lot of water coming out in the outfield, where there are 14 heads on the one zone (13 of which we have found). If the pressure isn't there...that irrigation system is probably a good 20 years old.....the bladders may be gone in the tanks.

Mr. Blaisdell: There is air in the top, maybe needs to be recharged...there is an air valve on top to pump air into them. Sometimes get water-logged, so need to have air pumped in. Ask Gary. No one has a map of irrigation system? (No).

Ms. Brown noted that DES came in and flagged us as a public source of water. So we are now on a list to be tested four times a year. Ms. Brown notified Ed Mencis (health officer) so he will now make any arrangements for testing.

Ms. Brown updated the Commission on the summer program:

Primex is coming in tomorrow to train (Plaistow and Sandown) counselors.

Next week, 1st Aid/CPR training and moving day (picnic tables, sheds...).

Note: The gentleman who has moved shed for 12 years (from storage to school and back at end of season) will be moving to Florida permanently. Next week he will bring someone he knows, to show what is needed. That person will give us a price for the future.

There is a new fence at the school which cuts up the middle of where Rec. normally sets up canopies. Need to find different space.

Field Trips: In the past, pre-approval has been granted. This allows use of credit card. (Covered by money taken in). Estimate, using last year's actual:

Rockingham Team Wear	up to	\$1200.00
Field Trip-Canobie	up to	\$3250.00
Field Trip- Launch	up to	\$2000.00
Triangle Portable (soccer toilet)		\$ 222.40
Bus trip, April vacation	up to	\$ 150.00
Facility Rental-2 nd Qtr.		\$1873.00

Note on Summer Program: A supervisor has been ill most of the year and is not sure he will be able to work a full day. Casey and Mike would like to take the next most experienced person and move up to supervisor (at same salary as at present).

Possible Future Programs:

- Boot Camp (Sept.)
- Senior exercise
- Music Program – Sept. (plus clinic during Summer Rec.)
- After School Program
- Sr. Lunch – Zorvino's
- Lego Engineering

Ms. Brown noted that there will be 9 sponsors appearing on the summer Recreation t-shirts. (This brings in \$900 in income).

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She also noted that she has been using one of the counselors for a few hours for clerical assistance during the busy summer sign-up periods.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 11.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Veronica Utman
Recording Secretary