

Town of Weare Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes November 15, 2022

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 7:04pm

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Chair, JaNeen Lentsch; Vice Chair, David Lundeen; Pam Moul; Denise Purington;

EXCUSED: Director, Lisa Grolljahn,

NOT PRESENT: John Van Loendersloot

Pledge of Allegiance

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: Heleen Kurk, Melody Beauregard:

Topic: Parks and Recreation budgeted line item for seniors: Ms. Kurk and Ms. Beauregard asked the Commission members to explain how the money for seniors is allocated. They indicated that Hand and Hand is offering meals and activities for seniors and asked how one might ask for money to be allocated to this service. The members explained that currently money is used by and for the Senior Happy Weare-ites organization. One thousand dollars was budgeted in 2022 and year to date three hundred and eighty-seven dollars (\$387) has been used by the Senior Happy Weare-ites. The money is used to pay for taking seniors out for a meal and to provide baskets at Christmas time. The Commission receives a list from the head of the Senior Happy Weare-ites which is use as a guide for delivering baskets. The Commission suggested Ms. Kurk and Beauregard reach out to this organization and see if the efforts of the two organizations could be consolidated and the use of these funds could be agreed upon. Ms. Kurk agreed to reach out to the head of Senior Happy Weare-ites.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: October minutes not available for approval. Will be presented at the December meeting.

Agenda Topics

Topic: Parks and Recreation Senior Citizens Activities. Ms. Lentsch made a motion to allocate the remaining six hundred and thirteen dollars (\$613) towards the purchase of holidays baskets to be delivered to the seniors who are members of the Senior Happy Weare-ites. Ms. Purington seconded the motion and all were in favor and the motion passed.

Action Items: None at this time.

Topic: Tennis Courts – November 19th is the date scheduled for the closing of the courts for the season. Securing the courts during summer season will be addressed next spring.

Ms. Purington informed Commission members that in late September it was noted that the courts had begun to crack. Ms. Purington contacted VT Recreation and they requested photos which have been sent. Ms. Purington has contacted VT Recreation again asking for an update and resolution but do response has been received. She will try one more time and then requested that either the Town Administrator or the Commission Chair reach out to them.

Action Items: Ms. Grolijahn to obtain chains to be used to secure the doors of the courts during the winter season. Ms. Purington to reach out to VT Recreation for response to cracking courts and if no response she will refer the issue to the Town Administrator.

Topic: Skate Park – Saturday November 19, 2022 the Commission will be removing old and broken equipment for the skate park. If was also noted that the "use at your own risk" sign that was to be installed by the Weare DPW has not yet been installed. Request to have sign installed was made greater than a year ago.

Action Items: The Commission members will see if they install the "use at your own risk" sign during their November 19th clean-up. If not another request will be make to Weare DPW.

Topic: Field usage – One request came in since our last meeting from Troop 529 however they subsequently canceled that request.

Action Items: None at this time.

Topic: Bolton Park – The replacement parts for the slide have arrived and are currently being stored at the Town Office building. The slide will be transported to Bolton storage shed on November 19th and installed in the spring. The replacement swing is also in storage at Bolton shed and will be installed in the spring. The JSR Football team did a clean-up of the fields which the Commission is very appreciative of. WAC will also be seeding the fields.

Action Items: November 19th the Commission members will be visiting Bolton Fields to prepare all equipment for the winter and to assess the playground equipment for additional repair needs.

Topic: Chase Park – The park has closed for the season and all restrooms have been winterized. Ms. Lentsch spoke with the Town Administrator regarding the needed repairs to the boat ramp. The Town Administrator indicated that she had been in contact with Representative Erf regarding recreation grants that might be available to Weare to be used to repair the ramp properly with concrete.

Chase Park Pricing Increase for 2023 season – This will be tabled until the December meeting at which time the Supervisor of Chase Park will be invited to attend.

Updating of lake polices will be deferred until spring. Also in the spring the log which is presenting a potential hazard will be removed. The request for replacement picnic tables will be addressed once the

2023 budgets have been approved. 2023 vehicle sticker need to be ordered ASAP so they will be available for the lake opening in the spring of 2023.

Action Items: Ms. Lentsch will reach out to the Town Administrator to get an update. Ms. Lentsch will take action on ordering the 2023 season vehicle sticker.

Topic: Library expansion – no updates as none of the Commission members have been available to attend the meetings.

Action Items: None

Topic: 2023 Budget – Ms. Lentsch reported that she has sent the draft budget to the finance department. Changes to the 2023 budget include the following increases due to price increases seen in 2022: Parks and Rec telephone from \$500 to \$600, Parks and Rec Outside Services from \$2500 to \$5000 to reflect the increased cost in port-a-potty fees, Parks and Rec rubbish removal from \$3,000 to \$5,000 to reflect increased cost in dumpster fees, Parks and Rec Repairs from \$2,000 to \$3,000 to reflect repairs needed to Chase Park gate house, recreational field fencing and Bolton park playground equipment, and Parks and Rec Senior Citizens Activities from \$1,000 to \$1,400. Total increase over 2022 budget is \$6,000.

Action Items: None at this time

Topic: Ineson Field – WAC reported to Ms. Grolijahn that they are having electrical issues with the new shed at the field. This shed belongs to WAC and Parks and Recreation has no authority over it. Also, we are awaiting a report from WAC as to the repairs that are needed per the building inspectors assessment in August of this year. Attached is a copy of the report.



Action Items: Ms. Purington will reach out to Mike Provencher regarding the electrical issues.

Topic: Purington Field – brief discussion regarding future need for field irrigation. At this time no action can be taken as digging a test well is estimated to cost up to \$25,000, funds that Parks and Recreation does not have.

Action Items: None at this time.

Topic: Gazebo - Ms. Greg has offered again this year to donate a Christmas tree for the gazebo. Most of the decorations from last year were stored and available for use this year. Ms Lentsch mentioned that a business in Deering has offered to donate some decorations if needed. The Commission will decorate the gazebo on November 26th at 9am.

Action Items: Ms. Lentsch will reach out to Mr. Van Loendersloot regarding additional bows

Topic: Pumpkin Hunt – the pumpkin hunt this year was not a well-attended as in past year. The Weare Middle School event may have impacted the attendance of our event.

Action Items: Look at scheduling of next years event so it is spaced appropriately from other events in town.

Topic: Draft Warrant Article for Revolving Account – Ms. Purington will send to the Commission members the draft language for a warrant article establishing a revolving account for the 2023 budget year.

Action Items: Ms. Purington will send draft warrant article to Finance department once reviewed by Commission members.

Next Meeting: December 10 at 7:00 PM

MEETING ADJOURNED: A motion was made by Ms. Purington to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded by Ms. Lentsch, all were in favor. Motion passed and meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Minutes Recorded by Ms. Purington