

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

Monday , January 11, 2021

7:00 PM

VIA ZOOM

Minutes

Members Present: Sean Loughran(Chairman), Steve Burfeind, Tom Edwards, Gary Remley, Jim Ogden, Elisa Beckett Flores

Members Absent: Mark Lamanna, Chris Van Steen, Shane Cosentino

Town official present: Director of Parks & Recreation Linda Lull; Building & Grounds Lloyd Decker; & BOE Member Greg Flanagan

Guests: Mark Howorth, CLA

Call to order: Chairman Sean Loughran called meeting to order at 7:08 PM.

Public Comment: Mark Howorth spoke on behalf of the CLA that the CLA has applied for a State Grant to do a pilot program at Candlewood Lake to test for invasive species. The program would call for voluntary boat inspections from NF Town boat launches all summer long. P&R was supportive and committed to get something in writing to CLA stating they will support the pilot program.

Approval of the Minutes: Tom Edwards made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2020 meeting as presented. Gary Remley seconded the motion- **All in favor**

Chairman Comments: Garden Club is being moved from the HS to behind the Creamery. Summer salaries will be discussed tonight with the impact of the new minimum wage of \$12/hour. Basketball courts & dog park is still closed and cannot be opened up until New Fairfield is in the 'orange' zone on the State Covid tracking.

Buildings & Grounds Update: Lloyd Decker noted the new wheelchair ramp has been installed at the new playground. He has identified two new picnic tables to purchase and will need that approved at the meeting so he can order them. The ash tree by the boat area parking lot has been removed. There is also another tree in the same area that will be removed shortly. In the last storm a tree did come down by the boat shed and caused minor damage to the siding of the shed in addition to bringing down some utility lines. He is working with town insurance carrier to get an idea of cost of repairs. Frontier has been out twice already but still have not completed the restoration of the utility lines. Contract is being finalized to begin repairs of the docks.

Director Update: Summer staff positions have all been posted. Sarah Shafer will not return as Assistant Camp Director. Planning for town events has commenced including Sip & Stroll(Columbus Day weekend), Boat Parade(July 12th), Trunk or Treat, Turkey Run, Summer Concerts & Movies, Holiday Tree Lighting. They are still waiting to hear back from the party who showed interest in running the Snack Shack at the lake and what their plans are for the summer.

Subcommittee Reports: Program Fees & Salaries discussed and finalized in the motions below. The new minimum wage plus \$.25/hour addition for each year served previously added to hourly wage.

Tom Edwards made a motion to keep the Daycamp & Before & After fees flat and make no changes to cost. Steve Burfiend seconded the motion. **All in favor.**

James Odgen made a motion to keep the Beach Pass program the same as last year which was daily fees of \$10/family and \$5/ individual. Gary Remley seconded the motion. **All in favor.**

Steve Burfeind made a motion for the Assistant Camp Director to be paid at \$14.50/ hour and camp counselors be paid the minimum wage plus a \$.25 for every previous year working for the town added to hourly wage. Tom Edwards seconded. **All in favor.**

Steve Burfiend made a motion for the Day Camp Director, provided he returns, to be paid \$19/hour and is continued to be allowed to bring his children to camp. Gary Remley seconded. **All in favor.**

Elisa Beckett Flores made a motion for the Waterfront Director to be paid \$20/hour and the Waterfront Substitute Directors to be paid \$15.50/hour as well as the lifeguards to be paid \$13/hour and all with a \$.25/hour added to hourly wage for each previous year served. Gary Remley seconded. **All in favor.**

Steve Burfiend made a motion that the Boat Attendants salary be \$12/hour(same as camp counselors) plus \$.25/hour added for previous years served as well as the Parking Attendant be paid \$21.25/hour with the substitute parking attendants be paid \$15.50/hour. Tom Edwards seconded. **All in favor.**

Elisa Beckett Flores made a motion to pay the Cinema Director \$25.50/hour(including travel time) and his Technician Assistants paid at a wage of \$13/hour plus a \$.25/hour for any previous year served. Tom Edwards seconded. **All in favor.**

James Ogden made a motion to approve \$1610.00 for the purchase of two new picnic tables. Tom Edwards seconded. **All in favor.**

It was noted that boat slip fees are remaining the same for 2021 from last season.

Future Agenda Items: Linda Lull brought up two town employees who support Parks & Rec were due for an increase which would be discussed further at a future meeting.

Adjournment- motion to adjourn made by Tom Edwards at 8:40 PM. **All in favor.**

**Received by Email on 1/13/2021 @ 1:02 pm
by Pamela J. Dohan, Town Clerk, New Fairfield**