

## DRAFT MINUTES

### Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 23, 2020 @ 6:00 pm

Hampton Falls Town Hall

1 Drinkwater Road

Hampton Falls, NH 03844

**Meeting called to order: 6:00 pm**

**Attendance:** Lyn Stan (chair), Karen Sabatini (treasurer), Beth Forgione (secretary), Pam Fitzgerald, Phil Chura, Mark Lane (Selectman Representative)

**Not present:** Tuesday Orluk, Larry Smith (GWP Liason)

#### **Review and Approval of Minutes:**

**MOTION:** To approve the minutes of the previous meeting on October 19, 2020.

**MOTION:** Pam Fitzgerald

**SECOND:** Karen Sabatini

Abstentions: None

**Passed**

#### **Treasurer Report:**

	General Ledger	Rec Revolving Fund
<b>Previous Balance (Sep):</b>	<b>\$3,024.97</b>	<b>\$26,019.91</b>
<b>New Balance (Oct):</b>	<b>\$562.09</b>	<b>\$20,442.87</b>

#### **Old Business:**

##### **Governor Weare Park (GWP):**

##### **Northeast Baseball/Mike Montville Field Maintenance Agreement – Selectman's Review**

The agreement with Mike Montville has been presented to the select board. Because it is a five year contract it has been given to town council for review. If a five year contract becomes a problem, a recurring yearly contract can be considered. No response from council has been received yet.

##### **Governor Weare Park Sign Update**

Glen Aldrich talked to Renaissance. They will honor their price of \$6255 for six months. The Parks and Rec Commission will request the select board to place this project on a warrant article rather than in the budget because it is a one time expense rather than an ongoing one. A warrant article will be prepared.

**MOTION:** Move to put a warrant article on the March ballot to fund a replacement of the Governor Weare Park sign for \$6255.

**MOTION:** Karen Sabatini

**SECOND:** Pam Fitzgerald

**Abstentions:** None

**Passed**

### **Ice Rink Update – Outdoor Lighting and LAS Request - Grant Winnes**

Grant Winnes was approached by Beth Raucci, the principal of LAS. She would like to have an ice rink at the school this winter. That raised the question of whether Parks and Rec should also put a rink at Governor Weare Park. Three options were discussed.

**Option 1** – Use the rink at the school rather than building a second one at GWP. Issues: The school cannot permit anyone but the children at LAS to use the rink while school is in session. That means the rink would only be available for the rest of the community on weekends and after 3:00pm on school days. With dark coming early in the winter, that leaves only a very narrow timeframe for other than the school children to use the rink on weekdays.

**Option 2** - An option might be to add lights\* to the rink at LAS so it can be used in the evenings during the week. Initial discussions with Principal Raucci indicated she was not for the idea due to liability concerns. Grant Winnes agreed to have a second discussion on this topic with the school administration to see if there is a compromise possible.

**Option 3** – Put a rink at GWP in addition to the one at the school so it will be available to the community with no restrictions. This option means more work for Grant Winnes and more volunteers needed to support two rinks. Also the GWP rink could be lit\* so it could be used in the evenings.

\*Grant Winnes has found a professional lighting company who has generously offered to provide lighting structures for this year for free – a significant value. The Parks and Rec Commission would need to pay for light fixtures and labor which comes to \$2000. As this expense is not in the 2020 or 2021 budget at this time, we would need to seek donations from our community to pay this expense should we choose to do this lighting.

We agreed to have a special meeting to select an option once Grant Winnes and Mark Lane have an opportunity to talk with the school administration about alternatives.

Lyn Stan provided us with the history of the ice rink at GWP. On behalf of Parks and Rec Grant Winnis and his volunteers constructed the ice rink in 2017. Since that time he and his volunteers have continued to maintain the rink and donated equipment to provide this great opportunity for our community. We greatly appreciate their efforts.

### **Bandstand/Town Common Roof Update – Donations to Date and Maintenance Schedule**

The roof has been completed. Donations stand at about \$6000 and will continue to be accepted. Many thanks to those who have donated and J. Carnes Roofing for their generous offer. The roofer explained sealant has been applied and a second coat will need to be applied in spring, 2023. The cost should be about \$2200 so will need to be included in the 2023 budget. Subsequent frequency will be determined based on how the first two applications are holding up, probably in four to six years after the second application.

### **Depot Road Waterfront Revitalization Update**

Parks and Rec Commission board members and several residents met with Jones and Beach, the engineers who have reviewed the foot print of the area and made suggestions as to what can be done with the space at the end of Depot Rd. Parks and Rec will submit the plan from the engineers to the select board on Dec 2. Discussion will include what areas of the site are owned by the town. (It has been determined the railroad now belongs to the state.) Also to be discussed is an ordinance to make the waterfront location available to Hampton Falls residents only. All permits related to this location will need to be identified.

Amounts put in the 2021 budget for signage have been removed due to a request to reduce the budget

for 2021. Instead funds will need to be pursued via a warrant article or donations if signage is to be placed at the site.

### **Budget 2021 Fiscal Year**

All departments were asked to cut 5% of the 2020 budget from the 2021 budget. Some of the items proposed to be cut are the signs at Depot Rd and GWP, landscaping on the common as well as some other smaller items. This budget is still under discussion so the final cuts are yet to be determined. It was pointed out that some offsetting revenue has not been considered when preparing the 2021 budget. Adding this income to the budget should be considered.

### **New Business:**

#### **Programs for 2021**

No update.

### **Other Business**

The Parks and Rec Commission has a “guidebook” which has been put together over the years. Pam Fitzgerald agreed to make a copy and share it with everyone so we can review and update.

**MOTION:** Move to adjourn at 8:02 pm.

**MOTION:** Karen Sabatini

**SECOND:** Pam Fitzgerald

Abstentions: None

**Passed**

**Prepared by:** Beth Forgione