

## **HARWICH RECREATION & YOUTH COMMISSION MINUTES**

### **MEETING DATE, TIME, & PLACE:**

Tuesday October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021 5:40 PM  
100 Oak Street, Harwich, MA - Room 2

### **COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:**

John Mahan, Frank Crowley, Vahan Khachadorian,  
David Nixon and Michael Hurley.

### **RECREATION STAFF PRESENT:**

Eric Beebe, Lee Ames

### **OTHERS PRESENT:**

Patrick Otton, Suzanna Nickerson

### **PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:**

- ♦ Patrick Otton - A beach display made from trash picked up off the beaches by Suzanna Nickerson was displayed for the Commission. She makes a collage display from trash she collects from her walks on the local beaches to emphasize the plastic pollution left there and the importance of taking off the beaches everything one brings on to them.

A motion was made by David Nixon to allow the installation of one beach trash collage at Rd River Beach with an exact location to be determined; Frank Crowley seconded the motion. Vote is in favor, 4 in favor, one abstention.

- ♦ Brian Albee, Bassett Field Discussion - Brian Albee did not attend the meeting.

### **RECREATION AND MAINTENANCE MATTERS:**

- ♦ Approval of Minutes of 8/25/21 and 9/21/21.

Motion on the 8/25/21 minutes was tabled as there is not a quorum of attendees present.

A motion was made by Frank Crowley to approve the minutes from 9/21/21 as written; Vahan Khachadorian seconded the motion. Vote is unanimous, 5 in favor.

### **Directors Report- Commission Meeting 10-26-21**

- ♦ **Brooks Park Lighting Project** - I had a meeting with the Engineering Company working on the Brooks Lighting Project and a timeline has been determined for the project that would see the new lights installed and functional by March 31, 2022 at the very latest. I sent out an email to the Commission last week with the details of this time line.
- ♦ **Fall Programming** - We are about halfway through our fall after-school programming season and we are full or nearly full all five days of the week. We are also having a successful K/1/2 soccer clinic program on Saturdays and have our full slate of adult programming going strong.
- ♦ **Winter Programming** - We are just starting to look at our winter programming schedule for 2021/22. It looks like the building will be reopened for nighttime hours as well as partial weekend hours which will increase our ability to expand programming throughout the winter. So far, we are planning for Monday through Friday after school programs, travel basketball league, basketball clinics, and a grade K12 basketball program. We plan to add on to this programming schedule as we get closer to the winter season. *The new building hours including evenings and some weekend hours will begin on 11/8/21.*
- ♦ **Adult Pickle Ball Program** - The indoor pickle ball season began on October 18<sup>th</sup> at the Harwich Cultural Center. It is running every Monday, Wednesday and Friday currently. We have 73 sign ups so far and expect many more as the cold weather begins to show up. We will expand to Tuesdays and Thursday when and if the numbers dictate it.
- ♦ **Employee Search** - We are still looking for more part time revolving fund employees that will be able to help us with after school programs and some night hours in the winter for basketball game and practice nights. I am putting the word out on social media and will plan on a newspaper add if needed. If any of you know of anyone that might be interested, please have them contact me directly.
- ♦ **Lifeguard Stands** - DPW has completed the construction and installation of all the new lifeguard stands at Town Beaches. There was enough money that enabled us to construct 3 additional stands for more lifeguard beach coverage. There will be a new sixth stand at Red River Beach, a second stand at Bank Street Beach, and a second stand at Earle Road Beach. The funding from the article will also cover new "No Lifeguard on Duty" signs for each stand.

**Property Maintenance Report** - A current maintenance report was given to Commission Members.

- ◆ Commission members asked that the port-a-potty at Brooks courts & Potters Field be pulled.
- ◆ Requested the chain be put up blocking the rear parking area at Brooks courts for the winter.
- ◆ Frank requested two new "small craft launch" signs be ordered for Red River Beach.

**Budget Reports** - A current budget report was given to Commission Members.

- ◆ The first quarter revolving fund report was sent to the BOS and the finance committee.

**Chairman's Report** - John Mahan

- ❖ John reported that vandalism at Brooks Park left all the windows in the new bathrooms broken out and there is graffiti on the pavilion and picnic tables there.
- ❖ He has requested the picnic tables be cleaned and removed for the winter season.

**Liaison Reports** -

- ◆ Community Preservation Committee - David Nixon
  - ❖ David Nixon told Commission members Ralph Smith may attend their presentation meeting.
- ◆ Facilities Committee – Vahan Khachadoorian
  - ❖ The Facilities Committee has not met yet but are planning to meet soon.

### **MISC CORRESPONDENCE:**

- ◆ Letter from Peter DeBakker - Harwich Town Band request for release of FY22 funding and for an additional \$2500.00 in funding for next fiscal year. After discussion by all members present the following motion was made.

**A motion was made by Frank Crowley to release the FY22 funds of \$2500 for the Town Band; Michael Hurley seconded the motion. Vote is in favor; 3 in favor, 2 against.**

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- ◆ Patrick Otton, Beach Trach Display - *See Public Presentations.*
- ◆ Email from Wayne Draeger regarding conversion of Bassett Field to multi use field - Eric spoke with Brian Albee from DPW who said it would cost approximately \$5k to complete the project.
- ◆ Brooks Lighting CPC Project Update - Eric is working on the RFP with Megan and he said the company is telling him the project could most likely be completed by May of 2022.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- ◆ Whitehouse Field Electric Cost Comparison - A comparison of WHF electric totals were given to commission members which showed savings from the installation of the LED lights that have been installed there.
- ◆ Next regular meeting to be posted for Tuesday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 at 5:30 pm.

### **OPEN SESSION:\***

- ◆ Vahan Khachadoorian - Potter and Sr. Memorial Fields have been closed and the irrigation has been winterized.
- ◆ Michael Hurley and John Mahan said they spoke to the Chief of police about the Bank Street Beach closure issue.

### **ADJOURN MEETING**

**A motion was made by David Nixon to adjourn the meeting at 6:45pm; Frank Crowley seconded the motion. Vote is unanimous, 4 in favor.**

Submitted by:

Lee Ames

Executive Assistant

Harwich Recreation Department

Secretary to the Commission