

**NEW DURHAM PARKS & RECREATION
COMMISSION
MINUTES JULY 13, 2022**

PRESENT: SCOTT GOODSPEED, DOT VEISEL, CELESTE CHASSE, NICK MARKS, JAIME BAMFORD, MARK D'ENTREMONT

Chair Scott Goodspeed - Meeting called to order - 6:32PM

PUBLIC INPUT:

Andrew Hernandez

Andrew is a representative of MVSB - wants to know how they can help for ND Day, specifically volunteers or funding.

Celeste still hasn't been able to locate a band for ND Day - Andrew can check for availability of family-oriented bands. Backup plan would be a DJ.

Dot asked if MVSB would be willing to sponsor a cotton candy machine - MSVB had \$500 in mind for a donation, which would cover the machine. Parks and Rec would make sure MSVB name is posted on the machine and/or banner is displayed.

Volunteers are needed for the afternoon/evening - possibly 2 to 3 from MSVB would be available to volunteer; during the day there would be a need for concessions, in the evening it would be coverage for evening events (incl. fireworks, trash pickup).

Coverage at the field - 10:30 to 4
Cabins / Birch Ridge - 5pm on

Last year MVSB donated \$700 (\$400 for fireworks and \$300 for bounce house)

Victoria Barker and Bob Buchanan

8 South Shore Road, next to town beach; they have been in touch with Celeste to discuss the fence and they want to check on the status of the fence repair

The residents have concerns (have submitted an email to Celeste documenting questions and concerns)

They ask that when the new fence goes up, it is a similar style and that the current landscaping not be damaged - the greenery is environmentally important for wildlife in addition to being a sound/visual barrier

They are willing to facilitate the building of the fence by providing access from their side and would like to know:

- 1 - when will this happen
- 2 - who is the authority - they would like a walkthrough as well as contact information for the town representative

The highway department was asked to cut limbs so they don't fall on the fence and so that the installers have room to work - a time has not yet been scheduled

Two quotes - one for cedar 6 feet high - \$5,125 at 125 Fence; Central Fence provided two different amounts - wood, the second time she spoke with them, was \$7,000. Vinyl, white, would be \$5,265 at 125 Fence; \$5,190 for vinyl at Central Fence. These amounts include taking down and hauling away, installation of the new fence

The current fence has been standing since approximately 1994

If vinyl, the residents would prefer a muted tone and not white, e.g. green, but the colored vinyl would likely be a higher cost

The residents would like to be informed of progress, but are not asking that a particular schedule be committed to - they are willing to be flexible.

There was also mention of the parking situation at the beach, and the residents' private driveway being used for beach parking - the beach attendants will notify those who park that they are able to observe using the beach, but Celeste has suggested the residents (and/or beach attendants) call the police so the cars are ticketed - the Chief has already ticketed in the past

AGENDA REVIEW

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Review minutes

Under RSA 39:2

Motion made by Dot for approval of minutes as drafted Wednesday, June 8 2022 - Second by Jaime - Unanimous - 6/0

Disc Golf

Down Main Street, 9 holes have been set up. Because the town doesn't own the property (Bickford) the liability would fall to Bickford. Disc golf needs to be moved to town property. Could be moved to the pickle ball / tennis court area once the land is cleared, and could also go around the ballfields. There could be a donation box set up to collect fees. Participants need to sign waivers, but in order to enforce any policy for waivers we would have to have an attendant.

4 pieces of the grant came in

Climbing wall, musical instruments. Celeste needs assistance with installing the new equipment. Celeste has asked the highway department to provide assistance. Everything has been stored in the shed. Can we as a commission do the initial work and then ask for volunteers to help finish the process?

Chad has offered to provide assistance next week with digging. If we can identify someone with an auger, it would reduce time and effort. Could Mike Gelinas provide a contact?

Volunteers did the playground equipment, so we could likely utilize some of the same volunteers.

We will need to purchase concrete.

Bike Day & Field trip was a good turn out

15 to 20, approximately 6 families.

New Durham Day

Discussion that the amount of work left to be done will likely require an additional meeting prior to the event – it was determined that all questions have been addressed and there will be no need for an additional meeting

Meeting with Liquor commissioner this week - Celeste has mapped out a spot for Muddy Road and they will have beer, root beer and seltzer available. Donations will be taken, but Muddy Road will be giving the donations back to the rec department.

Still looking for more food trucks - Funky Gringo is not an option because they would want to be the only food truck available. We already have 2 food trucks (hot dog vendor, and a TBD food truck), but Celeste will continue to look for more options. Would Sausage Express be an option? Joe's Fried Dough?

Need more sponsors for prizes

Band - Celeste will be contacting a DJ in the meantime. Will need to come out of the revolving fund.

Under RSA 39:2

Motion made by Dot to authorize up to \$500 from the revolving fund to be paid for a DJ - Second by Chad - Unanimous – 6/0

Cotton candy machine - funded by MVSB - we had authorized \$1000 at the June meeting

Fields update

We want to expand the field and add the pickle ball courts and additional accommodations. Cole will cut the trees for \$3500. Russ knows someone who would level the land after the trees are removed for no cost. The work would be done within the next few weeks. Dot suggests the tree removal and leveling come from the ball fields maintenance, with the fence being funded by the revolving fund.

Additional field needs include spreading the stone dust, fixing issues with field infield(s). Volunteers would not be sufficient. Dot asked if a grant be an option. Celeste has been looking for grant opportunities. There are none available at this time. The skate park may have an opportunity to be grant funded, but would need to be made with concrete and would go beyond our space needs. The tennis courts and pickle ball would be a more favorable priority.

Chad recalls discussion at one point previously that the lower field, the majors field, be reduced from 90 feet to 70 feet. ND does not have players that use the field currently. Shortening the field would provide an opportunity for other current teams to use the field. Minors are 60 feet. The other fields currently cover t-ball, rookies and minors. If there is not a need to maintain it as a ballfield, there is the opportunity to use the space for something else. Reducing the size of the lower ballfield would provide an opportunity to move the outfield fence.

The upper field fence could also be moved to provide more parking. If a rec center is being built, we need to be able to accommodate 2 cars around the

corner. Would resizing the field (moving the fence) impede the soccer field? No, given the size requirements of the soccer field. The soccer fields can also be reoriented within the current spaces if needed.

We need to develop a prioritized list for the field, which in turn will determine funding needs for the year. After these priorities are determined, we can revisit the funding of the fence. Once the clearing is done, there will be no additional work done on the pickle ball and tennis courts this year. Pickleball cost would be \$40,000 for 2 courts, \$75,000 for 4 courts. Additional funding requirements for tennis courts. Celeste will be looking for grants, and feels there will be grant opportunities.

Under RSA 39:2

Motion made by Jaime to authorize \$3500 out of the revolving fund for clearing the pickle ball / tennis courts - Second by Chad - Unanimous – 6/0

Beach fence letter

Jaime suggested we seek a quote for colored vinyl, and clarification on whether the vinyl is hollow or solid; if it is solid then wood would be a better option for longevity. The fence needs to be completely replaced, regardless of the type of fencing. There is a plaque on the current fence that may provide information on who the original installers were. If it is still an open business, we could ask them to provide a quote.

A movie night at the beach would be an opportunity to fundraise. Dot asked the question of how the fence would be funded - the beach maintenance line is not enough (\$990). The proposed playground at the beach also needs to be funded. There had been discussion on switching the sheds. Chad suggested that the town should pay, not the rec department. Celeste can only do what is within the budget to fund. There might be an opportunity to move money from ballfield maintenance, but there is a need for that funding to be preserved. There is a lack of definition on which repairs are funded by the town versus which are funded by the rec commission. It is difficult to anticipate funding on an annual basis, but the new budget will be in March

and needs to be planned accordingly. A warrant article would be another option, with voter support of an expenditure. Related to the warrant article, Celeste is going to ask that the Smitty ballfield trust be generalized.

Will we be hosting the senior dinner? If it is not funded, that amount could be made available. The senior dinner is a significant undertaking, and requires town participation (donations, use of the school). New Durham Day is very stressful, and the potential turnout doesn't necessarily justify the effort that goes into hosting the event. Celeste raised the larger question of whether the annual schedule should be revised, more events added during the calendar year, and New Durham Day eliminated. Celeste will check with the school for availability for the craft fair and senior dinner before we decide how to proceed with scheduling. The item will be tabled for the time being.

New Business

13 year olds have approached Celeste for jobs. The town does not want to hire 13 year olds. Suggestion from Nicole that we make scholarships for volunteers. The scholarship money would be split by participants and hours worked. This amount would have to come out of the revolving fund. The 13 year olds have been vetted and Celeste believes they would be responsible enough to serve in a volunteer capacity. This opportunity would provide work experience but would also provide a conduit for potential future employment.

Under RSA 39:2

Motion made by Dot to authorize rec director to spend up to \$1500 to award scholarships to young volunteers - Second by Chad - Unanimous – 6/0

Caveat - this arrangement needs to be explicitly stated and have defined guidelines (term dates) for participants. Participants would be responsible for documenting hours, and Celeste would sign off on hours.

Old Business

Meeting schedule - confirmation of next meeting date

NEXT MEETING

August 10, at the Town Hall at 6:30pm

Under RSA 39:2

Motion made by Scott to adjourn - Second by Dot - Unanimous – 6/0

Meeting adjourned at 8:32

Respectfully submitted,

Nick Marks