

Town of Leicester

Parks and Recreation Committee 59 Peter Salem Rd Leicester, Massachusetts 01524-1333 Phone: (508) 892-7021 Fax: (508) 892-7058 www.leicesterma.org

Minutes of Meeting January 20, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pat McKay, Lucky Margadonna, Nancy Ortiz, Jess Margadonna and Bob Pingeton. Joanne Bernier and Sue Sears

GUESTS: Kristen Forsberg Assistant Town Administrator, Harry Brooks, Tom Lauder, Art Parquette, Donna McCance, James Stephens, Dawn Marttila, and David Genereux Town Administrator

Meeting called to order 6:31pm

MINUTES:

MOTION: Pat McKay moved to accept the meeting minutes from the December 17, 2020

meeting.

SECOND: Joanne Bernier

VOTE: All in favor

BUDGET:

MOTION: Pat McKay moved to accept the budget as presented

SECOND: Lucky Margadonna

VOTE: All in favor

OLD BUSINESS:

Christmas Light: Scott would like to keep this going. The Town's people loved it. We should purchase trophies next year and LCAC is interested in funding this endeavor. We will make this a yearly adventure.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mike Novia would like to take over the contract for Rochdale Park, knowing that Becker College's contract is running out on December 31, 2021. A discussion was held including schedule and rental fees as well as field use. Mr. Novia stated he is willing to pay a permit fee if one is established. Mr. Genereux will look into the legalities and procedures of leasing the field in the event Becker doesn't renew.

Jimmy Stephens discussed the Legion's plans which are undetermined due to Covid-19. We will have to wait and see what the rulings will be for play. We will revisit with information from Becker College.

MOTION: Lucky Margadonna moved to table the discussion at this time.

SECOND: Jess Margadonna

All in favor

Sue, Jess and Joanne will work together to come up with a fee schedule for the fields to help for maintenance costs and improvements.

Dawn Marttila from BPSPC gave an update on Burncoat Park. Dawn discussed a conversation that was had with the Conservation Commission, who are responsible for the park, about activities being held, in the future at the park. The committee is applying for a Mass Trails Grant. Things covered by the grant are trail maintenance, removal of invasive species, trail signage, 2 ADA parking spots, a path from the parking lot to the beach.

MOTION: Jess moved to write a letter of support for the grant

SECOND: Pat McKay

All in favor

Bob Pingeton met with several Band Stand Committee members to discuss scheduling of events on the common. All bookings will be done by the Town Administrator's office. David Genereux discussed the Band Stand scheduling. Highway will maintain the common. Paul Fontaine will be the point person between Parks & Rec. and the Band Stand Committee. The concerts on the common will continue if allowed due to Covid-19 restrictions. A grant to replace the benches on the common was secured. Becker College will continue to cut the grass.

BOARD REPORTS:

Nancy Ortiz: Towtaid Park update: the contract for the revitalization of the park including fencing, paving etc. was resigned. There are several grants that may apply to this project. Nancy is requesting to purchase material to help seal the cracks on the handball court. She will do research on this and come back to the committee with several types of materials that could be used. She would also like the trees trimmed around the courts.

Jess: Therapeutic swing has been ordered and will be installed in the spring.

Lucky: Discussed the light contest and expressed how grateful he is for all the help provided by Megan Bouche in creating maps etc.

Bob: Discussed the possibility of offering food at concerts held on the common. The committee will look to do this in the future. Bob reached out to Paul David to as for help with this possibility

Next meeting will be held on February 17, 2021 at 6:30pm

MOTION: Joanne Bernier moved to adjourn meeting at 8:13 pm

SECOND: Pat McKay VOTE: All in favor