Parks and Recreation

Town Hall

July 16, 2018

Meeting opened 734PM

Present - Doug Thornton, Steve Victorson, Joe Reynolds, Wyona Lynch McWhite, Bob O’Shea

7/2 Minutes will be prepared for the next meeting.

6/25 Minutes -

Vote to approve minutes from 6/25 as corrected. Doug motioned to approve. Joe seconded. Passed 4-0 Wyona abstained as she was not present on 6/25.

Bob - Beach credit system update. Beach transitions are live and updated. Roughly 8k of beach stickers sold plus sailing and lessons. Bob followed up with the beach issues today and Doug brought down the list of lessons from the older system.

Doug - A parent will show up tonight to discuss beach safety concerns.

Bob and Doug are working on the field and ski club transactions. All beach transactions are in the system and updated.

At the next meeting, Bob will spend time with each of us on how to use the system.

Wyona asked about utility bills and whether or not they will be paid by the town. Bob has spoken to Tim and he has agreed that the town will take over these payments directly. Wyona will discuss with the town regarding changing the utility bills to the town address.

Doug suggested that Ratta send us a single monthly bill.

Bob suggests that the town pay this bill directly, but out of our budget. Town volunteers should not be worried about paying such regular bills.

Bob asked for website feedback. Doug likes how the site is looking and said that the filed maps were a great addition, especially for visiting teams.

Wyona - Can our email contact information be made live?

Bob - Yes

Joe - John Seiff volunteered to copy edit our new site.

Bob asked that we all check the site and send him any feedback.

Bob questioned how BHRA and Bridges payments are being tracked. Not sure if it is going into revolving.

New Business - Bart Morrison: Citizen

Beach comments and observations from the position of support and appreciation and enthusiasm for the beach program. In the spirit of continual improvement he has some observations from his experience as a former beach director etc.

**Instruction** -

1. Assessment and putting kids into the right level. Observed on one occasion a kid was placed in the wrong class. Suggestion more attention to details. A better outcome could have happened if the teacher had taken just a little more time. A weak swimmer was put into a level 6 when he was a level 4. The problem was solved. This is not a complaint. Bart is very engaged.

Doug - How long was the assessment?

Bart - It was a conversation with one of the guards on the beach. This was arranged with Allie on the day prior, but the instructor who gave the test just had them do a short swim.

Joe where was the test done?

Bob - Red Cross requires 50 yards of each stroke.

Steve - Suggested that Bob meet with the guards and teachers to hammer home the seriousness of such a test.

Sailboat instructors - Not wearing life jackets. Why is this happening? This could be a very dangerous situation and it also sends the wrong message to the kids.

Bob - This is a lack of discipline, no reason for this to be happening.

Let’s bring the program to the next level.

**Guarding** - The end of the day is inconsistent. Instructors did not blow a whistle informing the beach that the guards were going home. Next, when are 1 or 2 guards needed? Bart observed a situation that seemed a little ad hoc as to how many guards are on the stand.

Joe just had this conversation with Allie, the answer was unclear.

Bob, said that no we need an exact answer.

Doug - When do they leave? Bart, in one situation the guards were off the beach at 450, but noticed that the guards are coming off at 445. As a citizen that is fine as long as every parent knows.

Steve - Suggested that at the end of the day, the guards go to each parent and let them know that they are closing/off duty.

**Organizational Observation** - Today was a busy day. A little more attention could have been given, today worked, but today could have gone better. Head Lifeguard needed to be more in control. Again, not a complaint, but a safety observation.

Wyona - We appreciate when people engage us in a conversation rather than complain and create a dialogue. Any other comments or concerns?

Bart - No I am satisfied with our meeting.

Officer Discussion - Will vote next time.

Doug not here on the first and third of August.

Wyona - Let’s discuss the next meeting dates. Will meet August 6th and 27th.

**Field Updates**

Lease agreement with the general store. No one from park and rec. has been asked to meet with the general store or the select board.

The soccer fields are now cut and prepped. There was some confusion last week with a soccer group.

Baseball and Soccer organizations are going ahead with their events.

A college team usually uses the field, but has not yet contacted Doug.

Bob - Does the college group pay?

Doug - Yes. The Summer soccer group will pay for the field usage online.

**Beach Operations**

No one has received the promised staffing and program update.

Joe - There are some questions about hours.   
Wyona - Be sure to loop in town hall.

Steve - This should go through Tim.

Beach Action Item - Is there any reason why sailing instructors are not wearing lifejackets?

Doug wants the decision to be made on this instantly.

Joe had a specific conversation about staff not closing the beach properly.

Beach closes at 5, with a whistle and megaphone announcement. Guards on the chairs until 5, should be finished by 515.

Steve had a citizen ask that on a hot day, can the beach stay open longer.

Not normally, we have a schedule and plan. Not possible given the plan.

New Sticker Procedures - One issue about someone who lost a sticker.

Bob - If a sticker was lost In the old system, we need to send it in the mail. With the new system, stickers are placed directly on the car at the tine of purchase.

Discussed the Nanny pass - Sticker placed directly on the car with the homeowners info and the nanny’s registration information.

Wyona - Allie has stickers from 200 - 400. Wyona will get her the rest.

Discussed beach invoices.

Joe - When doing the beach drill, wants to do it on a date when Bob is present. Joe wants more drills.

Bob - Allie does drills at the beginning, not sure if done more regularly, She needs to tell us.

Steve - Commented that Allie’s head guard needs to be better trained….As Bart said, this is a positive learning moment, not a negative criticism.

Doug - One of us should be there at the start of the next session.

Joe - We do not want to undermine Allie.

Wyona - Suggests that our presence is necessary to help make a point.

**Budget Updates**

Audit - Wyona is meeting with the auditors tomorrow morning.

Doug - Will we be pulled in later, should an issue develop?

Bob - Do you need help with league athletics and sage? Bob thinks that we are all blocked out of sage. Frank’s password did not work.

No financials or munis since our last meeting. Did submit warrants from Ratta and Charter.

Meeting Adjourned - 920 PM