

New Boston Recreation Commission

Subject: Commissioners' Meeting
Date: March 29, 2012
Location: Old Engine House ("OEH")

Attendees:

Commissioners: Lee Brown, Kim Borges, Ken Hamel, David Hulick, Jen Martin

Staff: Mike Sindoni, Mary Manna

Guests: Dave Teed, Susan Carr

* = *excused*

1. Thank you, Ken, for the new TV for the OEH common room!
2. Susan Carr represents the town energy commission. Information has been collected about town building energy usage. The goal is to make recommendations and track progress over time. Lee has collected data on White Building fuel consumption. He is working on energy savings priorities. Annual heating oil consumption is around 1,500 gallons per year. Major options are insulation (ceiling), windows, and heating system. Rec has to decide its level of commitment to the facility. Since the buildings are ultimately controlled by the school, we need to decide how to handle capital improvements. Geothermal and wood pellet heating systems can be considered. If the school takes back either building, Rec would want to recover the depreciated value of its capital investment. Lee would like to set up sub-committees to study the alternatives. Rec needs to schedule meetings with the school board to discuss this topic. The buildings cover 2,000 sq ft. The lowest cost replacement would be \$100/sq ft, or \$200,000. David has agreed to work with Lee to create a pay-back model for each improvement option. Grants will be considered as part of the process.
3. Dave Teed is interested in joining the Commission. There are no current board openings, but Dave is welcome to participate in Rec activities and meetings.
4. The need for Friends of Rec as a fund-raising organization disappeared when the revolving account was set up. Re-establishment of that group as a 501c:3 is under consideration so that we can expand our fund-raising activities. A committee of three is required, along with a filing fee of \$800, which could be covered by Grassroots Funds Organization (www.GrassrootsFund.org/Grants).
5. Erica Delfillippo wants \$10/hour for 10-15 hours per week to investigate and complete grant applications. She would look at the concert grant as well as the Grassroots application. *A motion was made and approved to engage Erica for an initial period of one month at the hourly rate of \$10/hour to evaluate and make recommendations about grants.*
6. Groundskeeping position: Applications received. The approach to the position needs to be re-evaluated. The town is also considering making use of this employee. Ken wants to make sure the work schedule is clear and that the needs of the Red Department are met (primarily ball-field mowing and maintenance, along with skateboard park and play grounds). The town will review candidates with us. This will be discussed Monday at the Selectman's meeting. Rec spent \$7,000 on labor last year. The draft job description was discussed and amended. The applicant will have to pass a background check.
7. St Joseph Community Service Fundraiser. Mary reported that she attended a meeting yesterday. They are planning a 2-mile walk-a-thon. She has sign-up sheets. The event, called "Walk for Meals so no senior goes hungry" will be on May 19th at 10am at Livingston Park in Manchester. St Joes supports our senior lunch program. This is the day before the Duck Race. *A motion was made and approved to donate \$200 from the revolving account to St Joseph.* Mary will also ask the senior group if they want to make a donation.
8. Upcoming events
 - a. The Easter event will be on the town common at 10am on Saturday morning.
 - b. The final kids dance will be on April 13th.
 - c. There will be a Foxwoods trip May 19th.
 - d. Sewing class proposed with Tony Gualtiere as the teacher. Kim reported that the library is offering a similar program. Mike thinks the format is different. Our program would be geared toward school-age kids with a material fee of around \$10. Mary has the written

proposal for this program. *The Commissioners approved a motion to move ahead with this program.*

9. AED for the White Buildings. Mike talked with Gina at the fire department. The price is around \$1300. Lee thinks we might be able to find one for less. Rec has a portable unit that we take on trips. The safety committee recommends that we also put one at the Old Coach ball fields.
10. The school has agreed to put the basketball court behind the school where the pavilion used to be. Dave Ealy is working on the site design. The goal is to get it done in early summer.
11. Softball update. New Boston U16 will play in Souheagan Valley and Concord Northwest leagues. This gives them a full schedule. There was a coaches' meeting this week. They want to change stone dust to clay in the infield. Clay is less abrasive than stone dust. Money from the homerun derby will support this field improvement.
12. Lee proposes a volunteer of the year award. Criteria and process will be discussed at future meetings. The Commissioners support the idea. Make the award at the spring cook-out and make the theme volunteer recognition. The cook-out will be on Friday, June 29th at 5:00pm. How do other towns select the nominee?
13. Other business:
 - a. The bathroom in the OEH is not intended to be a public facility during events like ball games. A porta-potty is provided in any case. There has been one unit downtown and there two up at the Old Coach fields. It was agreed to put a second unit downtown during the summer months.
 - b. Equipment storage. Rec has a problem with storage. Equipment is spread around town (town hall, concession stand, white buildings, grandstand, school, Lee's house, etc.). Does it make sense to get a shipping container and put it to the east of the White Buildings. The cost to purchase one is around \$2100. Jen wants to inventory what we have first in order to decide what we really need to keep. David proposes the Commissioners take a look at the various storage sites.
14. The next meeting will be on April 17th at 6:30pm in the Old Engine House.

David Hulick, Secretary