

AYER PARKS DEPARTMENT

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Minutes of September 19, 2019 - Ayer Parks Commission

Location: First Floor Meeting Room, Ayer Town Hall

Members Present: Jason Mayo, Chairman, Kevin Williams, Sarah Gibbons, and Jeff Testa

Also Present: Jeff Thomas, Ayer Parks Director

Absent: Richard Duran

At 7:31 PM Mr. Kevin Williams made a motion to open the meeting. Ms. Sarah Gibbons seconded. No discussion. Unanimous vote to approve. (4-0-0)

Volunteer Cookout

Chairman Mayo stated that the Commission needs to pick a day to hold the annual volunteer appreciation cookout and suggested Saturday October 5th.

After a brief discussion the Commission decided to start the cookout at 1:00 PM after youth soccer.

Projects

Storage Building

Mr. Thomas stated that he met with Robert Pontbriand, Town Manager, and Mark Wetzel, Department of Public Works Superintendent to go over the bids that were received for the proposed storage building. Mr. Thomas stated that the bids came in higher than the budgeted \$600,000 which includes the engineering leaving about \$525,000 for the actual building.

The Commission looked over and discussed the bids that come for the storage building.

Mr. Thomas stated that at the meeting with the Town Manager and DPW it was suggested that the Commission go with the second bid with the additional option one as shown on the spread sheet. Mr. Thomas stated that it was also suggested that the Commission request an additional \$250,000 at town meeting in order to fund the building and cover any overages that may occur.

Mr. Kevin Williams made a motion to accept bid #2 with additional option #1 and to request from the Town an additional \$250,000 for the project. Ms. Sarah Gibbons seconded. No discussion. Unanimous vote to approve. (4-0-0)

Perimeter Path II

Mr. Thomas stated that he has met with the contractor for the second phase of the perimeter path and they should be starting work soon, they will also fix the items left by the last contractor.

Basketball Hoops

Mr. Thomas stated that the new basketball hoops have not arrived at this time, the DPW has agreed to help with the installation.

Fall Projects

Mr. Thomas went over the projects that he will be working on this fall which include extra seeding at the park, and various fields around town including the high school.

Chairman Mayo asked who maintains the fields at the Ayer/Shirley Middle School

Mr. Thomas stated that he has not been told who maintains those fields, it is unclear who has jurisdiction over them. There are at least four stakeholders who claim they do.

Mr. Thomas stated that the interior of the beach house will also receive some attention this fall.

Eagle Scout Projects

Mr. Thomas stated that Scout Shawn Woodward built benches around the basketball court at Sandy Pond Beach but missed the deadline for completion to receive his Eagle Scout. Mr. Thomas would like to invite him to a meeting to thank him for his work at the beach.

Mr. Thomas asked the Commission for a few suggestions possible Eagle Scout projects. The Commission gave Mr. Thomas several suggestions.

Fall Town Meeting

Mr. Thomas stated that the Commission needs to vote on submitting a warrant article to the Selectman for the additional funding for the storage building

Ms. Sarah Gibbons made a motion to request the Board of Selectman add a warrant article to Special Town Meeting to request an additional \$250,000 for the construction of a storage building. Mr. Jeff Testa seconded. No discussion. Unanimous vote to approve. (4-0-0)

Incidents

Mr. Thomas stated that there are only two incidents to report, on September 13th there was a young man on the top of the dugout and a car was blocking the entrance to the park.

Family Friendly Events

Mr. Thomas stated that the discussion is on the agenda as an ongoing item.

Ms. Gibbons stated that there will be a movie at the park next month.

Committee Representative Reports

Signs – Nothing to Report

OSRC – Nothing to Report

Master plan – Nothing to Report

CPAC – Nothing to Report

July 4th – Nothing to Report

ASRSD Field Study Committee - Mr. Thomas stated there will be a vote in the Town of Shirley next week for funding for the field. Ayer will not have a vote as it has already passed the funding.

Soccer

ASYS & AYS – Ms. Gibbons gave updates for the programs. Chairman Mayo asked if a new dimension field was painted for the U8 level. Mr. Thomas confirmed the width was increased by 18 feet.

Sandy Pond Beach

Present: Heidi Januskiewicz

Ms. Heidi stated that the beach season has ended, and they had a good year with the new staff that should be back next year.

Mr. Thomas stated that exit interviews were conducted with all the guards and will be asking them all to return next year.

Mr. Thomas also stated that the fencing that was installed along the beach to help with the geese problem worked well.

Basketball

ASYB– Mr. Williams stated that the Board met last night and are working to get together the registration forms together for the season.

Mr. Williams asked if the practice times have been set for the HS teams.

Mr. Thomas stated that they are currently still slated to practice on Saturday Mornings at the HS.

AYB – Mr. Thomas stated that the Commission can discuss baseball at the next meeting.

Next Meeting

October 17, 2019

Adjourn

At 8:36 PM Mr. Kevin Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Jeff Testa seconded. NO discussion. Unanimous vote to approve. (4-0-0)