



Parks and Recreation Committee  
**Regular Meeting**  
Minutes, June 1, 2020; 4:30 PM Remote  
Meeting via Zoom

**ITEM 1**

**CALL TO ORDER** – 4:32 PM – The meeting was called to order by Chair Jeff Dobbs. Committee members present were John Kelly, Amy Schwartz, and Greg Veilleux. Tommy Parham was not in attendance.

**ITEM 2**

**Excused Absence(s):** None.

**ITEM 3**

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:** *The Parks and Recreation Committee allows at this time up to fifteen minutes of public comment on any subject not on the agenda, and not in litigation, with a maximum of three minutes per person.* – None.

**ITEM 4**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Mrs. Schwartz moved, with second by Mr. Kelly, to approve the Agenda; motion passed (3-0).

**ITEM 5 REGULAR BUSINESS**

**A. Meeting Minutes: Recommendation for Committee Secretary to record and distribute meeting minutes beginning with today’s meeting.**

Mrs. Schwartz accepted responsibilities to record and distribute meeting minutes.

Mr. Kelly noted that Suzanne’s memo included an ordinance reference that “No elected official can act as an officer of this Committee.” Mr. Kelly advised that he was elected on the Warrant Committee, while Chairman Dobbs noted that at election, he could no longer hold chair due to his position on town council. Per the ordinance, a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary should be elected the first meeting of the committee after August 1. Mr. Dobbs noted that there may be push back due to dates changing for elections and would be discussing this with Mr. Knight.

## **B. Park Events.**

- 1. Cancelled Events: For information purposes, the following previously approved events were cancelled / postponed by the Applicants.**
  - a. Abbe Museum Indian Market (5/15-5/18/20 – postponed to 2021)
  - b. Mt. Desert Island YWCA Island Arts Fair in the Park (5/23-5/24/20 – cancelled)
  - c. Doiron / Karacsonyi Wedding Ceremony on Grant Park (5/24/20 – postponed to Tuesday, July 5, 2021)
  - d. Vettes of Coastal Maine Corvette Display (5/30/20 – cancelled)
  - e. MDI YMCA Acadia Half-Marathon and 10K Race (6/7/20 – cancelled)
  - f. Chamber of Commerce Art in the Park (6/20 -6/21/20 – see Item 5.B.2. below)
  - g. Bar Harbor (MDI) Rotary Pancake Breakfast / Seafood Festival (7/3-7/4/20 – cancelled)
  - h. Chandler Wedding Ceremony on Grant Park (7/18/20 – postponed to 2021)
  - i. Coastal Fine Art Alliance of Maine Gallery on the Green (9/19-9/20/20 – cancelled)

Mr. Kelly questioned if events that have been postponed are sending in a new app without added application fees or if this states that they are automatically approved for the next year as this can cause conflict with other applications. Ms. Leavitt stated that she believed it was waived fees for next years applications and new application process would be required, but she would verify to confirm with the committee.

- 2. Request to Reschedule Event: the Bar Harbor Chamber of Commerce requests approval to hold its Annual Art in the Park on the Village Green from 7:00 AM on Saturday, August 22, 2020 to 6:00 PM on Sunday, August 23, 2020.**

Mr. Dobbs advised that the date requested for the proposed rescheduling is not allowable under the Parks & Rec ordinance which does not allow use of town parks for large events during the months of July and August except under the exception noted in the ordinance for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July events at the ballfield and the craft fair on Labor Day weekend. Mr. Dobbs stated that the committee would need to deny the event and the Chamber could then go before the Town Council to seek approval. Mr. Kelly inquired if the Town Council could approve an event that is not permissible under the ordinance, to which Mr. Dobbs advised that the council could override the ordinance. Mr. Anderson of the Bar Harbor Chamber of Commerce inquired when they could speak with the Town Council regarding the request, Mr. Dobbs noted that with the next Town Council meeting being tomorrow it wouldn't get on the agenda until the next scheduled meeting. Mr. Anderson noted that puts the meeting very close to the event, but they would contact Mr. Knight to have their request placed on an upcoming agenda.

Mr. Veilleux moved to deny the Bar Harbor Chamber of Commerce's request to hold its Annual Art in the Park on the Village Green August 22 & 23. There was a second by Mr. Kelly to approve the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

### **C. Update on Town Council action allowing for temporary seating in Town parks for 2020.**

Alf Anderson of the Bar Harbor Chamber of Commerce and Eben Salvatore of the Parking Solutions Task Force gave an update on the current plans regarding parklets and parking spaces for local restaurants and retail stores.

Ms. Leavitt shared an image created by Steve Weed which had a few park areas highlighted – Grant Park, Barker Park, Harborview Park, and the Ballfield.

Mrs. Schwartz inquired if the town parks were included in the plan laid out by Mr. Anderson.

Mr. Kelly noted that the town and Chamber should invited visitors and those getting takeout from restaurants to use our town parks to enjoy their meals. Some of the parks have picnic tables and we have many grass areas that you can distance and picnic at comfortably.

Mr. Salvatore stated the first step being presented to council is for these parklet and to gauge business needs. He stated that if they looked further into picnic tables for the town parks that the Chamber would take responsibility and help Public Works with trash.

### **D. Athletic Field Community Opportunity / Life Flight Partnership: Request consideration of a proposal to build an outdoor sport/game pad that would also serve as a Life Flight landing pad during emergencies. Both uses would serve the community, and the sports pad is consistent with the deed restrictions.**

Fire chief Matt Bartlett, paramedic/firefighter Basil Mahaney, and Ms. Leavitt presented the proposal for a Life Flight landing pad which could serve the community with recreation in the park space. Shuffleboard courts were discussed with a possibility of a 52 ft x 52ft space paved. Chief Bartlett noted that there would be pavement from the street to the pad to allow the emergency vehicles better access. Ms. Leavitt stated that the landing pad requirement is at least 30x30 minimum.

Mr. Kelly questioned the ferry terminal as possible location rather than the park. Ms. Leavitt stated that the parking lot for the ferry terminal will not have landscaping that will work with emergency vehicles, stating that the ballfield is a more ideal location and is a very under-used section of the park. Different types of surfaces were discussed and can be looked into for best utilization for year-round use and snow removal.

Mr. Kelly mentioned the pad having measurements more in line with the width of the skatepark (around 38ft width).

Mr. Kelly moved to restrict the landing zone area in the furthest upper NE corner of the athletic field no to extend beyond distance of skatepark with investigating surfaces other than asphalt. Mr. Veilleux seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

### **E. Public Works Updates:**

#### **1. Tennis Court**

Ms. Leavitt stated the tennis courts are in poor shape with areas of asphalt being an unsafe surface. They are currently working with contractors on pricing. With discussions to expand for pickle ball and the use even for playing tennis there is a need to expand to 120x120. The price will be expected to go over budget with increasing the surface area.

**2. Harborview Park**

Ms. Leavitt noted that a Trenton welder made a proposal with a reasonable cost compared to previous quoted price and timeline. Ms. Leavitt will be exploring this further with Edlund Iron works.

**3. Bike Racks**

Ms. Leavitt advised that the bike racks have been ordered and were set to ship on May 29. However, there is no ship date yet. Next week should have tracking number. At the Village Green, the three hooped base bike rack is broken, Mary Booher has offered to take it and repair it.

**ITEM 6 - OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr. Dobbs noted that in two weeks we could discuss the helipad further and would inquire further about Parks & Recs officers regarding the ordinance.

**ITEM 7 - COMMITTEE COMMENTS AND REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA**

**ITEM 8 - NEXT MEETING DATE**

Scheduled for Monday June 15, 2020.

**ITEM 9 - ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Veilleux moved to adjourn, and Mr. Kelly seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 5:49pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Schwartz  
Recording Secretary