Chichester Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

Minutes 9/11/19

Present: Zack Boyajian [Chair], Tom Jameson [Vice Chair], Ansel Sanborn [Secretary], Ewen MacKinnon, Robyn Eldredge

Absent: Chris Baines, Jon White

Public: Tammy Jameson

1] Zack called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM at the pavilion at Carpenter Park and called the roll of the Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) members. The August PRC meeting had been cancelled due to scheduling conflicts.

2] After review, a MOTION to approve the minutes of 7/17/19 was made by Tom and seconded by Ewen. The MOTION passed with all in favor.

3] Zack reported that he had met with Kevin Gagne of the Trail Dogs snowmobile club to walk their proposed relocation of the snowmobile trail on park land surrounding the Highway Department (the west side trails). Zack suggested a number of changes.

On the east side trails, Kevin also proposed changes to the trail from Bear Hill Road to the perimeter trail and from perimeter trail toward Pittsfield. Zack asked that Kevin provide permission forms to PRC, mark the proposed trail changes for review, and provide details on the proposed west side stream crossing bridge.

Once these details are reviewed and finalized, Zack will help with preparing the wetland permit application.

4] The poison ivy adjacent to the basketball court has been sprayed by the contractor located by Jon.

Additional work on the uphill side of the court including excavation, grading, and construction of a block wall between the court and perimeter trail is planned if time permits and volunteers are available.
5] Requests for park usage were discussed and approved:

Heather Chiavaras requested use of the park from 3 to 8 PM on October 27 for Trunk or Treat.

Jessica Richardson, Chichester Central School Principal, requested use of the park parking lot for teacher parking on Back to School night.

Robyn requested use of the park on October 19 for a U-10 girl’s soccer tournament.

6] Trimming of the park’s trails and trail edges remains a priority. Zack will contact the selectmen to see if the equipment used for town roadside mowing could be used on the trails. Trail maintenance will be a priority for next year.

7] Tom suggested installation of a sign to direct people to the west side trails. He will discuss this with the road agent.

8] Ewen suggested topping the old well house area with a concrete cap. He will investigate costs.

9] At the conclusion of soccer season: Robyn will coordinate shutting off the water system and draining the water lines; Zack will check the level of water in the waste water tank; and the $1,000. balance of the playground fund will be used to loam, seed, and fertilize the area around the new playground.

10] Tammy Jameson asked if the No Smoking status of the park also applied to vaping.

Robyn mentioned the ongoing issue of dealing with trash in the non-sports seasons.

Ansel suggested that both issues should be addressed over the winter as part of the development of park guidelines. He will gather examples of guidelines from other communities for review and discussion.

The playground entry should be updated from fund raising to a report on the playground’s successful completion. Robyn will update this with some photos.

Posting events on the park calendar is still difficult and not timely.

Meeting minutes are months behind.

The Recreation Master Plan should be updated to reflect work that has been accomplished and to outline new priorities. Tom will check to see how this could be coordinated with the update of the town master plan.

12] PRC meetings will be moved to the Selectmen’s Office beginning in October.

13] At 7:30 PM, a MOTION to adjourn was made by Ansel and seconded by Robyn. The MOTION passed with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted, Ansel Sanborn, Secretary

Not Approved Until Signed Approved: [Signature]