

## PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Monday, October 23, 2017

3:30p.m.

Unity Park Fieldhouse

56 First Street

Turners Falls, MA 01376

**Present:** Dennis Grader, Chairperson, Barbara Kuklewicz, Vice Chairperson, Albert Cummings, Secretary, Jon Dobosz, Director of Parks & Recreation

**Guests:** Tanya Brunelle

### Meeting Being Taped

**1. 3:35pm Meeting Called to Order**

**2. 3:35pm Approval of September 28, 2017:** Albert Cummings makes the motion of approving minutes; seconded by Barbara Kuklewicz.

**3. 3:36pm Sign Dedication at Unity Park**

Jon introduces Tanya Brunelle to the Commission. She would like a sign at Unity Park in dedication to Sonya Lemonakis, a former resident of Montague, a teacher, and now current heavy weight world boxing champion. Tanya, Steve Ellis, Town Administrator and Tom Bergeron, Superintendent of DPW discussed possible placement of a sign and thought Unity Park could work. Sonya often speaks publicly of her hometown, and promotes family values, and diversity so signage at Unity Park where so many families and people from all over seems right. Tanya then spoke with Jon about the possibility of putting the sign over by the workout equipment, near the basketball courts as it may draw people to that workout area. She has contacted Hale Signs, and is open to suggestions from the Commission in regard to size and look of the sign. The Commission though as far as size a 3''x 2'' seems appropriate and also suggested to talk with Hale Sign about sealing the sign to help with graffiti. Jon has worked with Hale Signs is very confident in their work. Jon will meet with Tanya again once a design has been created for final approval.

**Motion:** Barbara Kuklewicz makes a motion to approve a sign dedication at Unity Park for Sonja Lemonakis; seconded by Albert Cummings.

**Vote:** 3-0

**4. 3:50pm Rutter's Park Project**

The site meeting was held October 11, and the official bid openings were due October 19, 2017. GZA Geoenvironmental and Berkshire Design Group both placed bids. The Rutter's Park Committee has the RFP's and is scoring them currently. They will meet this week, and Bruce Hunter has asked that the Rutter's Park Project Committee accept the plans on behalf of the Park and Recreation Committee as the time schedule is very tight. Members of the project committee are Jon Dobosz, Barbara Kuklewicz, Erin Bernard, Deb Frankel, and Mathew Atwood.

**Motion:** Albert Cummings makes a motion to allow the Rutter's Park Project Committee to pick the design for this phase of Rutter's Park Project; seconded by Dennis Grader.

**Vote:** 2-0, one abstention (Barbara Kuklewicz).

**5. 3:54pm Montague Center Park Project Update (CSD inquiry)**

Jon is unsure about the inquiry to the Conway School of Design in regards to implementing the master plan for this project, because there may be a money shortage with the town on this project. The inquiry will still be submitted to the school as a project for the spring semester. If the school is interested, we will then have to ask the town if they can financially support this project. Jon has contacted all the people interested in becoming part of the Planning Committee and they have all accepted the appointment Jon would like to meet in November or December, hopefully with an answer from the Conway School of Design. Moving forward, a survey should be created and left at the Montague Library and our Facebook page making this available to the community all winter.

6. 3:56pm **Summer 2017 Programs Profit/Loss Statements**  
●**Summer Camp Program:** Participation statistics, profit/loss statements and bar graphs showing trends relative to participation and revenue expenses were all included in the packet for the Commission. Participation was down just a bit this summer; Jon prefers the profit margin at about 20% as it helps fund other areas in our revolving budget and we were within acceptable range of that profit margin.  
●**Adult Softball:** Started the season with 10 teams, and one withdrew. The program suffered a loss in revenues; we are currently trying to collect fees from one team. We did try concessions the weekend of the tournament, but didn't take in the revenue that we hoped for but we will try that again next summer.

7. 4:00pm **Department Facebook Page – Adopt Terms & Conditions**  
Chief of Police, Chip Dodge put together Facebook terms and conditions for his department and shared with other department heads. He recommended these terms and conditions as a good base to follow. Jon went through the list and framed our terms and conditions around our department's needs.  
**Motion:** Barbara Kuklewicz makes the motion to adopt the terms and conditions for our Facebook page; seconded by Albert Cummings  
**Vote:** 3-0

8. 4:03pm **Franklin County Chamber of Commerce Cider Days**  
Cider Days is a large event sponsored by the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce. We were approached by the organizers and asked if they could use Unity Park for their Salon on November 4. They will have local and international ciders available to taste. Tickets will be sold for two different tasting sessions; 3:00pm - 5:00pm and 5:00pm- 7:00pm. A large tent will be set up on the grass aside the softball fields. The Board of Selectmen has approved the use of alcohol and we are putting together the logistics of the field and the use of the fieldhouse. Jon will open up the facility but will not be here the entire day.  
**Motion:** Barbara Kuklewicz makes the motion to approve the use of Unity Park for Cider Days, November 4, 2017; seconded by Albert Cummings.  
**Vote:** 3-0

9. 4:07pm **Directors Report**  
There were no questions.

10. 4:08pm **Other Business**  
Jon asked the commission and granted vacation time the week of Thanksgiving; this may change depending on how the basketball program is coming together.

Fieldhouse roof on the eastern portion needs new tiles. Jon is looking into contacting the makers of the shingles for replacements. This roof is only ten years old, so he is hoping to get them for no cost as they are guaranteed for 20/25 years. He has contacted the Franklin County House of Corrections to see if they could do the work of replacing the shingles. Even if we aren't covered under warranty, we will still need to do the work this spring. Jon will keep the committee up to date with this matter

The November/December commission meeting dates will be as needed. Mostly likely, we will have to meet in December as the FY19 Budget is due between Christmas and New Years.

**Adjournment: 4:15pm**  
**Vote:** 3-0

X \_\_\_\_\_

Albert Cummings, Secretary Date  
or

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Name & Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Print

Date: \_\_\_\_\_