

Parks Committee/Town Board Meeting January 19, 2009

James Rossol called the joint Parks Committee/Town Board meeting to order at 6:43PM in the meeting room at the Town Hall. Present were James Rossol, Michael LeClair, Jolynn Reinhardt, James Parent, Robert Schultz, Dale Williams, Peter Jacobs and Douglas Smith. Barbara Anschutz, Kay Hanna and Patrick Keehan were absent.

Clerk verified posting. Motion made/second Jim/Jolynn to accept the agenda. Carried.

Accept minutes – Motion made/second Mike/Jim to accept the minutes. Carried.

Citizen input – None.

Discussion/possible decision on future projects/vision for Anclam Park – One concern was that the Town Board and Parks Committee have never really talked and seem to be on a different track, so we wanted this meeting to have an open discussion and make sure we're not going in different directions. One of the projects is there will be a pipe under the ground going down the pier. The Town Board rejected most of what Miller Engineering put together. The only thing the Board was thinking was to run some conduit lines down the pier in case there ends up being something out there in the future. Their concern has been mostly to get the storm sewer project done. Dale said there is going to be a catch basin for the sediment and it's designed to be like a big French drain. It will catch all the garbage that gets washed down. The tank will be located towards the end of the parking lot. There will not be dunes and beach grass as Miller had proposed. Jim P. is thinking that by early summer most of the engineering projects will be done.

Jim R. feels the park could be very special for Baileys Harbor. Since the jetty is being torn up, he would like to see it put back together in a way that will maximize the beauty/use of the park. Jim P. explained that one of the reasons the jetty currently looks the way it does is because of the fireworks, as the procedures became more and more elaborate. If we do decide to do anything, the DNR and the Planning Department will have to be contacted. Jim P. feels it would be nice to formalize things at the Park. From a landscaping standpoint, he'd like to see defined borders. Bob mentioned one of the problems is sand blowing around. If there is going to be a grassy area, there would have to be some kind of barrier. The parking lot will be extended to the south and be completed this year.

Jim R. said one idea was to extend the parking lot south, all the way to the white fence to finish the blacktop off. That would stop people from driving around on the gravel and using it as a drive-in viewing area. It would be a lot safer and extend the area for family use. That alone he feels would be a big improvement. He agrees that the plan has to be enacted in stages for a monetary standpoint, but a lot could be done to the jetty just with regrading it and maybe putting decorative gravel on top. He asked if it would be possible to use a barge to light fireworks off instead of doing it on the jetty. It's something that could be looked into, but may be too costly. If we talked to the people who handle the fireworks, maybe there is something that can be put out there permanently. We could

check with the Fire Dept. and see if they need so much equipment out there for prevention of fires. Most likely, any kind of construction out past the high water mark would be DNR regulated. There may even be problems with certain kinds of landscaping.

Jim P. said that now would be the time to start laying stuff out. Dale would like to see the Parks Committee find out what exactly could be done with the jetty. DNR should be called right away before too much time gets put into it. The work is going to be done as soon as the weather breaks. Even after it's done, there could still be some time to determine how to put it back together. The only thing they'd need to know is if any type of conduits should be ran.

Discussion on possible future procedures for the Rec. Park – At the last Parks Committee, there was talk of sending a letter to everyone who uses the field. First of all to find out their schedules, but also to find out what they need in terms of maintenance. Almost sort of like an agreement saying what each party can expect. The concession stand issue also comes to mind. Last year there had been some talk about requiring the stand to be open. Jim P. feels it is important for teams/manager to know who's responsible for doing the maintenance. As for the concession stand, that should be worked out between the Parks Committee and Town Board before we talk to anyone else on it. As for fees, Bob feels we should leave it at no fees for using the field. One way to do the concession stand would be for the Town to buy the supplies and then do an ending inventory at the end of each game, but it would have to be determined who is responsible for doing that. Bob explained how the process currently works.

As for the rest of the maintenance at the park, a job description may need to be looked at. Jim R. went through and created a document that details just about everything that needs to happen at the Rec. Park as sort of draft description. Mike has spoke with Mr. Knutson from Gibraltar and there may be some more practices this year.

To summarize, we need to do about three things. One is to figure out the concession stand. Another is to get a letter written. And the third is to figure out a maintenance procedure/job description. There was an issue with watering and fertilizing this past year. There just needs to be some better procedures put in place so everyone knows what needs to happen. It seems like there could be some better utilization of time. One thing Dale would remove from the draft would be the scheduling. That shouldn't be a problem, since the Town website will have a schedule on it. Jim P. suggested having a closed session to talk about some of chain of command/job description matters. Once a system is in place, things will run a lot smoother. The biggest issue is getting done what needs to be done on the field.

Jim P. said the committee should treat the concession stand as its own issue and T.B. will try to get the job description hashed out as quickly as they can. Parks Committee will work with Bill Becker and Bob to get things figured out for the concession stand.

Verify date for February meeting – Meeting will be Feb. 16 at 6:30PM.

Motion made/second Jim/Jolynn to adjourn at 8:30PM. Carried.

These minutes are subject to correction at the next regular monthly Parks Committee meeting and regular monthly Town Board meeting.

Douglas Smith
Town Clerk