

**TOWN OF BRATTLEBORO
RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT
BOARD MEETING
April 9, 2018**

The Brattleboro Recreation & Parks Board met on Monday, April 9, 2018 at the Gibson Aiken Center.

Attending Board Members: Ricky Davidson, Bethany Ranquist, Jessica Gould, Connor Floyd and Bill Willson.

Attending Staff members: Director, Carol Lolatte and Administrative Assistant Kim Isaacsen.

Agenda Adjustment: None

Public Participation: None

Minutes: Motion to approve the March 12, 2018 minutes was made by Bill Willson and seconded by Connor Floyd by a vote of 5-0 the March minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

DOG PARK/SKATEPARK UPDATE: At the Brattleboro Town Meeting on March 17th, the town donated \$60,000.00 to the project. The Tarent Foundation Challenge grant that will run during May & June, it's a \$15,000.00 challenge/match grant. The Committee is also working on a go fund me campaign and a fundraising letter campaign. The RPF for the design services of the project was put out to bid, bids are due on May 9th.

The Dog Park will open as soon as the snow melts.

WEST RIVER PARK UPDATE: The Park will open the week of April 16th. The Conservation Commission has concerns about the Japanese Knot Weed, they will work on eradicating the problem over the summer. The Committee had a meeting on April 3rd, they voted to disband as a Committee as the project has been completed, Carol will bring the request to disband as a Committee to the Selectboard.

NEW BUSINESS

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES:

- The current Great Course is "Skeptics Guide to American History" is wrapping up, the next Course is "The Story of Human Language".
- Kathryn Einig a local Massage Therapist has started 15 minute chair massage at the Senior Center her next visit is scheduled for April 24th.

- The Senior Pickleball group continues to have an issue with glare on the floor from the windows, Jessy and Carol are working with local vendor to find an acceptable solution to the problem such as window quilts or window blinds.
- The Annual Volunteer Luncheon is scheduled for April 24th.

PROGRAM REPORT:

- Current youth spring registration numbers:
 - Girls Lacrosse : 41
 - Boys Lacrosse : 10
 - T-Ball: 48 (4 teams)
 - Small Fry: 91 (7 teams)
 - Softball: 15 (1 team)
- Practices will start for all programs the week of April 16th.
- Adult and Evening programing: (Mar 12 – Apr 8)
 - Zumba has had 4 participants, many cancellations have led to a decline in numbers)
 - Badminton has had 22 participants.
 - Volleyball has had 25 participants.
 - Pickleball has had 33 participants.
 - Table Tennis has had 25 participants.
- Daily Open Gym and Game room are being well attended.
- Parent-tot/Open Gym have 5-20 participants per day.
- The Annual Easter Egg hunt was held on March 31st.
- April vacation activities include:
 - Super Bike & Fun day on April 21st.
 - Bowling on April 17th.
 - Pitch, Hit & Run on April 18th.

JR SKI JUMP: Todd Einig representing the Harris Hill Jr. Ski Jump presented a proposal to the Recreation and Parks Board for a revitalization of the old 10 meter ski jump at Living Memorial Park. The Board reviewed the proposal presented and discussed at length the benefits of having the ski jump at the park.

Board member Jessica Gould made a motion to approve the concept for the Jr Ski Jump as presented with the understanding that:

- The Harris Hill Jr Ski Jump will need to provide proof of insurance.
- They must comply with all state and local permitting.
- It will be necessary to work with the Rotary Disc Golf course and Living Memorial Park Snow Sports as both groups use the space where the ski jump will be place.
- The financial burden of the project will not impact the Town of Brattleboro.

The motion was seconded by Bethany Ranquist and by a vote of 5-0 the motion was carried.

NELSON WITHINGTON SKATING FACILITY PRO-SHOP: Lou Bordeaux presented a proposal to add a small building inside the skating rink to be used as a pro-shop, services provided would include the sale of equipment and on-site skate sharpening

services. The Board had a lengthy discussion about the pros and cons of adding the pro-shop to the rink and the impact of what this would mean to local business who currently provide skate sharpening services. After the discussion of the proposal the Board asked Carol to invite Lou to the next Board meeting to discuss the proposal in depth. Carol will also check the local rink user groups for feedback about this possible addition to the skating rink before the next Board meeting.

CAPTIAL IMPROVMENTS:

- The funds for the Gibson Aiken Center roof repairs were approved at the Annual Town Meeting on March 17th, Carol is working on the RFP.
- The Duck Water Slide for the wading pool has been ordered take 6-8 weeks for delivery, funds from the grant received last year will be used to pay for the new slide.
- The funds for Energy Efficiencies improvements at the skating rink were approve at the March 17th Annual Town Meeting.
- The plastic has been removed from the pool deck, over the next few weeks staff will determine how the deck weathered the winter weather and if further repair is needed prior to opening the pool for the season.

FYI UPDATE:

- Vermont Roadwork received the contract for Morningside and Prospect Cemetery maintenance.
- A large tree fell at Crowell Lot and another at Prospect Hill Cemetery during the last wind storm, it will be removed as soon as possible.
- Rotary organized a spring cleanup for Disc Golf Course last weekend, getting ready to open for the season.
- Summer staff interviews for the swimming pool, park maintenance and day camp are currently taking place.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 14th at 6:15p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn by Connor Floyd, 2nded by Jessica Gould at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly Isaacsen

Kimberly Isaacsen, Administrative Assistant