

Camden Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2011

5:15pm, Washington Street Conference Room

Present: Ray Andresen (chair), Molly Mulhern, Jeff Kuller, Martin Cates (Select Board liaison), Sharon Gilbert, David Olivas, Brian Robinson, Beth Ward and Peter Brown

Excused: Ed Libby

Ray opened the meeting at 5:20pm

Sharon moved to accept March 9, 2011 meeting minutes as presented, David 2nd. All in favor

Committee Reports

RMRA Redevelopment: The March 29th public meeting reviewed the project to date and then presented the rationale to build a smaller 8,000 square foot lodge and keep the existing lodge as a temporary solution to the budget constraints of this project. There will be little or no money put into the existing building except for operating costs. The 2nd phase of the project will be to raise more money to build a second separate or attached 5,000 or so square foot building to replace the existing building. The architects and the building committee will meet again on Thursday, April 14, 2011.

US National Toboggan Championships®: Jeff reported that the net income for the 2011 event is about \$60,000. Sharon reported that the committee met last week to begin planning next year's event. The sponsorship subcommittee will continue to meet throughout the spring and summer to make initial contacts. Jeff reported that the chute stairways and loading area need some major renovations this summer/fall. The committee received an estimate of \$4,000 worth of materials to do the work. Jeff also reported that the committee is getting quotes from a timing company to do all the timing for the event. Molly questioned that and wanted us to really look into training our staff instead of spending the money.

Other Business:

Financial Report: Jeff is projecting the Snow Bowl's net income to be \$80,000 and he is working on a plan with the managers as to what to spend the money on. some examples are: service the snowmaking pump (\$8,000), chairlift parts (\$11,500), groomer maintenance (\$26,000), new snowmobile (\$10,000), 3 new snow guns (\$12,000), slope drainage (\$16,000), new snow tubes (\$1,800), ski racks (\$1,500), a Nordic groomer (\$3,000), software for the ski school (\$3,000), adaptive equipment (\$1,500), snowboards for 4th grade (\$7,000), more Jr and adult skis/bindings and boots (\$7,500), helmets (\$1,200) and maintenance to the rental shop (\$1,500). Jeff stated that he plans to add another \$10,000 to \$15,000 in the "rainy year fund," the operating surplus. Instead of making a formal contribution to the town's general fund, Jeff reported that we will be receiving no financial support whatsoever from the town for next year's Snow Bowl budget, and that may be the first time in the history of the town owning the Snow Bowl.

Laite Beach Renovations: Jeff reported that the town has been working on a plan for major renovations to include a new seawall, better drainage, new stairs and roadway repairs at a cost of \$120,000. The project was however cut from next year's budget.

Snow Bowl Operations: Officially shut down March 27th.

Megunticook Rowing: Ray reported that the Rowing Club was granted a 5 year license from the Select Board.

Sport Field Management Meeting: Beth reported that all the users of the sport field have been notified of a meeting on April 20, 2011 at 4pm to talk about scheduling procedures, turf management, field closures, scheduling priority, individual sport requirements/equipment needs, and a proposed playground.

Summer Programs: Jeff reported that the YMCA will be running the Summer Youth Recreation Program again this year and it will be the same as last year. Registrations are already coming in. The Wednesdays-in-the-Park Concerts will have 7 performances again this year starting July 6th through August 17th and Beth will again try to find sponsorship to cover the cost of performers.

Other items:

Playground: Jeff reported that the West Bay Rotary is committed to build a playground and provide \$8,000 toward the project. They are hoping to obtain a matching grant from a playground company in the fall.

Community Gardens: Jeff asked the committee if a community garden would be beneficial to the community. The committee asked Jeff to research what it would take to run a community garden.

Upcoming events:

Yard Sale – June 4th, \$25 per spot.

Molly moved that the meeting be adjourned, David seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously at 6:55 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 11 at 5:15 pm in the Washington Street Conference Room.

Minutes recorded by Beth Ward