

Orford Parks and Playgrounds
Minutes of the Meeting
May 19th, 2021
Orford Community Field
7:00

Present: JJ Hebb, Lawrence Hibbard and Robb Day
Also Present: Ann Green and Eva Daniels

JJ opened the meeting at 7:03 and invited Ann and Eva (members of the Orford Bandstand Committee) to discuss the Orford Bandstand. Ann made some suggestions for the Parks and Playgrounds management of the bandstand. Ann felt that no tacks or nails should be allowed to affix items to the bandstand. There should be a refundable deposit for use. There should be a fee for non-residents.

JJ agreed and she also felt that possible fees could be set aside for upkeep and maintenance. Ann reminded the group that the gardens and bench were funded by the Orford-Fairlee Lions Club in memory of Beth Blauvelt. Ann also felt that the maintenance and planting of the garden costs should come out of the Parks and Playgrounds budget, JJ reminded her that it was a function of the Orford Garden Club. Other suggestions included no parking on the lawn, and to put a lock on the electrical breaker box to prevent tampering.

All summer concerts have been approved with the one exception of a open mic night on July 21st. JJ agreed to approve that as well. JJ did mention that there has been alcohol consumption at previous bandstand concerts and that Orford has a no alcohol policy. Ann agreed and also stated that the Bandstand Committee does not enforce this rule and it is up to the Town to enforce. Ann also mentioned that the Bandstand Committee will install a port-o-potty for the two months of concerts.

Ann is also on the 4th of July Parade Committee and there will be a parade this year.

JJ brought up two property use forms. Rivendell Baccalaureate for the Town Common and the women's softball league for the Community Field. Both were approved.

JJ motioned to accept the April and March OP&P minutes as read, Lawrence seconded and all were in favor.

JJ contacted Vermont Recreational Surfacing and Fencing to repair the Basketball court and the Community Field. They will work on it sometime in July. After hours usage of the Basketball court has ceased.

Lawrence mentioned that there was excessive weed growth in the infield of the baseball field. Chip from Diamond Turf came down this week to fertilize and he will apply the herbicide on the infield after the baseball season is over.

Clem Powers, a young Rivendell girls softball coach, approached JJ and expressed interest in using the softball field next season. All thought that would be fine.

Lawrence felt it would be wise to install some six foot fencing in front of the softball dugouts. JJ will look into having this fencing installed.

JJ ordered new swing seats for the playground. Esther suggested installing a Port-o-potty down at the playground to eliminate the messes that have been left at the playground. After some discussion it was agreed that it would be worth a try for a month.

Robb motioned to order a port-o-potty for the Orford Playground on a month to month basis and to have it removed if there are signs of vandalism. JJ seconded and all were in favor.

Robb agreed to touch base with Scott Gagnon to see if there has been any other issues at the playground as Scott has brought previous issues up to the Committee.

Lawrence mentioned that there has been some die-back of grass on the Common. JJ and Robb both agreed and Lawrence suggested that he may try to rake and seed that area if he gets a chance. Robb mentioned that we still needed to apply lime to the Common in accordance to a recent soil test.

Robb and Lawrence will put the American Flags up on the telephone poles along Route 10 and Orfordville before Memorial Day.

Meeting adjourned at 8:41

Minutes taken by Robb Day