

Orford Parks and Playgrounds Committee

Minutes of the Meeting

September 18th, 2024

Orford Town Offices

7:00

Present: Larry Taylor, JJ Hebb, Lawrence Hibbard and Robb Day

August minutes were approved with edits, all in favor.

Property Use Requests/Forms

Touch a Truck on the Common, Cara Dyke. Requested for October 19th. Approved with the understanding that no trucks will park on the Common and they will park at the north end in a parking area right off of Archertown Road.

Rivers Edge Soccer requested to hold a fall event at the Community Field on October 27th. Approved with the understanding that they will work with Rivendell Schools regarding scheduling.

Biospray treated the Mall Walk with an herbicide on September 12th.

The Community Field Dumpster was removed on Sept. 17th for a trial run. It was decided that Rivendell Academy had their own dumpsters and OP&P had very little use for a dumpster at this spot since all cans were removed from the Town properties that the Committee manages.

Chip from Diamond Turf will be removing the weeds on the baseball field. Robb felt that we needed to start to be consistent with the treatments to the Community Field. Grub treatments should happen on an annual basis and we should consider an aeration and at least fertilization as well as additional seed. The funds raised through the lease of the field should go back into the field. Lawrence has noticed skunk activity around the buildings indicating grub activity in the turf. Lawrence will meet with Chip on September 19th.

JJ and Lawrence met with Gary Dimick and Brad McCormack from the Bandstand Committee and Jarrett Olsen from Olsen Roofing on September 6th to look at the repairs needed for the Bandstand. Different ideas such as rebuilding the deck or pouring a slab were discussed. Jarrett was interested in repairing the structure free of charge and was interested in starting soon. JJ felt that the Town/Bandstand Committee could help with some of the expenses. There have been no communications from Jarrett as far as a repair start date.

New Business

Harry Pease contacted Robb and JJ regarding the Orford Conservation Commissions request to build a Kiosk at the Lower Baker Pond access. This would be built by the Conservation Commission and paid for by them as well. All felt that this was a good idea and approved. Robb agreed to let Harry know.

Harry Osmer discussed some concerns he had for the Indian Pond beach monitor position going forward. He had issues with Piermont residents not having beach passes and felt that Orford could possibly

help with that by issuing passes to Orford and Piermont residents from the Orford Town Offices. He also could hand out passes at the beach with proper forms of ID required. He also had some issues with folks having too many out of Town guests on passes as well as improper use of passes such as using grandmas pass for out of Towners. These incidents happened during busy times and Harry felt he could not make exceptions if the beach is already crowded. Larry felt that the Orford Select board could arrange a meeting with the Piermont Select board to clear some of this up. Robb felt that some rules could be written up on the pass as a reminder to users of our policies. Robb brought up that Harry is unable to call for help as there is no cell service out there. JJ said that Jody Mace, when she was beach monitor, had a radio for emergencies. Larry thought that the Fire Department should be able to provide one and will look into it and Lawrence agreed to talk with Kevin Follensbee. It was decided that we would invite Harry to our next meeting to go over ideas for next year.

JJ and Robb will be painting the picnic tables on the Common on October 6th at 1:00 and Robb will fix and paint the table at Indian Pond Beach when the weather cools.

Community Field maintenance was discussed again and the committee had a short discussion regarding the proposed dugout kits that were donated to the school to replace the existing dugouts on the baseball field. Lawrence felt that they were too small for high school level play.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30.

Minutes taken by Robb Day