

HILL PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

May 15, 2014

6:30 pm – Hill Public Library

Call meeting to order: 6:30 PM

In Attendance:

Desiree L. Mahurin

Karen Welch

Justin Wheeler

Absent:

December Fortin

Stephen Thomsom

Victoria Dickinson, Alternate

Mowing – No bids were received and Harbour is unable to continue to mow for the Town. Desiree Mahurin will talk with the Road Agent and the Board of Selectmen to discuss the option of utilizing existing employees hired for mowing other areas of the Town and the Town's mower to get the Park mowed. The expense of wages will be from the Parks & Recreation budget.

Maurice P. Wheeler Park:

Vandalism – On May 3rd somebody felt the need to climb up the backstop behind home plate and collapsed the backstop, empty the trash barrels around and may have even tried to start a fire. A Police Report has been filed and the PD is investigating the case. The Highway Department helped repair the vandalized backstop at the Park. A report to the Town's insurance company has been made in case further repair is needed. An inspection of the backstop will be conducted by the Local Government Center to determine if the backstop will need further repairs and/or replacement to be in complete safety compliance.

The portable toilet has been installed as of May 8th

Planting of cleared areas – The committee did a walk-through of the Park and discussed planting of donated plants in a newly cleared area near the entrance. Desiree Mahurin will work on getting them planted.

Veteran Memorial & Pond:

DONATION OF A GRANITE BENCH RECEIVED – Mr. Chester W. Butcher, Jr. has donated a granite bench which has been installed between the war memorials and the flag pole. This bench is inscribed with the following: TO ALL WHO HAVE SERVED HONRABLY IN THE US MILITARY – This bench was installed on May 9th by Mr. Butcher.

Planting near steps to the monument - The committee did a walk-through of the monument area and discussed planting of donated plants near the steps. Desiree Mahurin will work on getting them planted.

Gazebo – A discussion was had about the possibility of moving the gazebo up to the street level closer to the electrical power source. Power would then be available at the gazebo, allowing for lights and power for events. The acoustics will be much better at that level opposed to being lower and near the water, which caused echoes and bad acoustics. The gazebo is on blocks and could be moved with the proper resources. The plants would also need to be moved with gazebo. Further discussion will follow.

Weeds in Pond – Karen Welch found some information of a tool called a weed razor, which may be effective in getting rid of some of the weeds for minimal expense. Karen will bring more information to the next meeting about this item.

Future events:

Mid/Late September ~ Taste of Hill ~ a taste-testing event and Fall Festival with music and a bonfire. Justin Wheeler will do some further research for the event and we will plan further at our next meeting. Ideas for music will be looked into.

October ~ Haunted Walk ~ with food, old-time games like apple bobbing and donuts on string, music, and a bonfire. The Girl Scouts and/or other youth groups could be in charge of the walk, while other groups can assist with food and the Parks & Recreation Committee could do the games while the fire department assists with the fire.

November ~ Veterans' Breakfast ~ buffet breakfast to be served followed by a flag ceremony at the Veteran Monument. Justin Wheeler is willing to organize the buffet, the Girl Scouts can wait on the tables and assist with the flag ceremony with Boy Scouts. Our plan is to offer this meal free to veterans and a minimal fee of approximately \$5 to all others. A tentative menu will include eggs, sausage, fruit, bread, coffee, juice, milk, etc.

February 2015 ~ Winter Carnival ~ ice skating, winter games, food, etc. – More details to come later.

Spring 2015 ~ Kids fishing derby ~ being planned in coordination with Cub Scout Pack 59 and NH Fish & Game. Den Leader, Jenn Kulacz contacted Desiree Mahurin with this idea. The committee agrees that this could be a great event. Mrs. Kulacz will be at a meeting in the fall to discuss further details with the committee.

Meeting adjourned: 8:00 pm

Next meetings: Thursday, June 19, 2014
NO MEETING IN JULY
Thursday, August 21, 2014
Thursday, September 18, 2014