

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

Minutes

Tuesday March 25, 2014 @ 7:00 PM
Open Meeting at the Town Hall in the Council Chambers
4540 South County Trail
Charlestown, RI 02813

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The March 25, 2014 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present at the meeting was Commission Co-chairperson Chery Dowdell and Commissioners Ed Vazquez, Keith DeMerchant, Richard Horstmann, Ryan Campbell, Sunny Cummings, Susie Fehrmann, Tom Nowell and Donna Deyorio.

Commission member Jodi Frank arrived at 7:11 PM and Julia Beasley at 7:14 PM.

Also present at the meeting was Parks and Recreation Director Jay Primiano and Program Director Vicky Hilton.

Absent from the meeting was Chairperson Tim Quillen and Town Council Liaison Paula Andersen.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes – February 25, 2014:

Richard Horstmann motioned to approve the February 25, 2014 Parks and Recreation Commission Draft Minutes. Keith DeMerchant seconded the motion.

Cheryl Dowdell, Jodi Frank, Susie Fehrmann, Julia Beasley, Sunny Cummings, Ryan Campbell, Ed Vazquez, Tom Nowell and Donna Deyorio approved the motion. All Commission members present were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

4. COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

TM Dyer displayed posters for the Saturday April 26, 2014 RI State Master and Legends Disc Golf event. He asked if Commission members would put up flyers for the event.

5. TOWN COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:

There was no Town Council Liaison Report.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Welcome New Member - Ed Vazquez:

The Commission welcomed Ed Vazquez. No motion was made and no vote was taken.

b. Update by Cody Clarkin Regarding Flag Pole Project:

Cody and Bill Clarkin presented the progress made on the Flag Pole Project for Ninigret Park. Cody identified that the next step was to have

Oyster Works prepare a cardboard mock-up of the project and that Town Council approval of the project was being sought.

Richard Horstmann motioned to approve Cody Clarkin going before the Town Council to present the Flag Pole Project at the April Town Council meeting.

Susie Fehrmann seconded the motion. Cheryl Dowdell, Ed Vazquez, Jodi Frank, Julia Beasley, Keith DeMerchant, Ryan Campbell, Sunny Cummings, Tom Nowell and Donna Deyorio approved the motion. All Commission members present were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Community Garden Discussion:

Susie Fehrmann motioned for the Parks and Recreation Commission to approve transfer of Community Garden administration and funds to Southern Rhode Island Volunteers with the understanding that the issue must go to the Town Council.

Ed Vazquez seconded the motion. Cheryl Dowdell, Julia Beasley, Keith DeMerchant, Ryan Campbell, Sunny Cummings and Donna Deyorio approved the motion.

Richard Horstmann and Tom Nowell opposed the motion. Jodi Frank abstained. The motion passed.

d. Draft of Advisory Opinion for Town Council Regarding Ninigret Park:

Jodi Frank motioned to postpone increasing fees until the Master Plan is updated.

Susie Fehrmann seconded the motion. Cheryl Dowdell, Ed Vazquez, Richard Horstmann, Julia Beasley, Keith DeMerchant, Ryan Campbell, Sunny Cummings, Tom Nowell and Donna Deyorio approved the motion. All Commission members present were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

e. 2014 Beach Fees:

Richard Horstmann motioned for there to be no increase in beach fees for the 2014 season.

Jodi Frank seconded the motion. Cheryl Dowdell, Ed Vazquez, Susie Fehrmann, Julia Beasley, Keith DeMerchant, Ryan Campbell, Sunny Cummings, Tom Nowell and Donna Deyorio approved the motion. All Commission members present were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

7. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

a. Chariho High School Girls Soccer Team:

Jodi Frank motioned to approve the application for Ninigret Park usage by the Chariho High School Girls Soccer Team.

Ed Vazquez seconded the motion. Cheryl Dowdell, Richard Horstmann, Susie Fehrmann, Julia Beasley, Keith DeMerchant, Ryan Campbell, Sunny Cummings, Tom Nowell and Donna Deyorio approved the motion. All Commission members present were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

b. Chariho Girls Softball League – Summer Practice at Wicklund Field:

Sunny Cummings motioned to approve the application for the Chariho Girls Softball League.

Jodi Frank seconded the motion. Cheryl Dowdell, Richard Horstmann, Susie Fehrmann, Julia Beasley, Keith DeMerchant, Ryan Campbell, Ed Vazquez, Tom Nowell and Donna Deyorio approved the motion. All Commission members present were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Chariho Cowboys 2014 Season – Chariho Cowboys Inc.:

Jodi Frank motioned to approve the application for the Chariho Cowboys 2014 Season.

Richard Horstmann seconded the motion. Cheryl Dowdell, Sunny Cummings, Susie Fehrmann, Julia Beasley, Keith DeMerchant, Ryan Campbell, Ed Vazquez, Tom Nowell and Donna Deyorio approved the motion. All Commission members present were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

d. End of Year Celebration – Chariho Middle School 7th Grade:

Richard Horstmann motioned to approve the application for the Chariho Middle School End of Year Celebration.

Jodi Frank seconded the motion. Cheryl Dowdell, Sunny Cummings, Susie Fehrmann, Julia Beasley, Keith DeMerchant, Ryan Campbell, Ed Vazquez, Tom Nowell and Donna Deyorio approved the motion. All Commission members present were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

e. Charlestown Elementary School Walk-a-thon Fundraiser – Charlestown Elementary School PTO:

Sunny Cummings motioned to approve the application for the Charlestown Elementary School Walk-a-thon Fundraiser.

Richard Horstmann seconded the motion. Cheryl Dowdell, Jodi Frank, Susie Fehrmann, Julia Beasley, Keith DeMerchant, Ryan Campbell, Ed Vazquez, Tom Nowell and Donna Deyorio approved the motion. All

Commission members present were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

f. NBX Summer Training Series – NBX Cycling Club:

Jodi Frank motioned to approve the application for the 2014 NBX Summer Training Series.

Richard Horstmann seconded the motion. Cheryl Dowdell, Sunny Cummings, Susie Fehrmann, Julia Beasley, Keith DeMerchant, Ryan Campbell, Ed Vazquez, Tom Nowell and Donna Deyorio approved the motion. All Commission members present were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

g. Run For Freedom (secure homes for victims of human trafficking) – Joy Fellowship Assembly of God:

Susie Fehrmann motioned to approve the application for the Run for Freedom.

Ed Vazquez seconded the motion. Cheryl Dowdell, Sunny Cummings, Jodi Frank, Julia Beasley, Keith DeMerchant, Ryan Campbell, Richard Horstmann, Tom Nowell and Donna Deyorio approved the motion. All Commission members present were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

8. SPECIAL PROJECTS

a. Tree Steward's Report:

Tree Steward Jodi Frank mentioned that pine tree cleanup will begin and four (4) trees are being donated in May or June of 2014.

9. PARKS & RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORT

a. Director's Report:

Jodi Frank motioned to accept the Director's Report.

Richard Horstmann seconded the motion. Cheryl Dowdell, Sunny Cummings, Ed Vazquez, Julia Beasley, Keith DeMerchant, Ryan Campbell, Susie Fehrmann, Tom Nowell and Donna Deyorio approved the motion. All Commission members present were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

10. PROGRAM MANAGER REPORT

a. Program Manager's Report:

Richard Horstmann motioned to approve the Program Manager's report.

Sunny Cummings seconded the motion. Cheryl Dowdell, Jodi Frank, Ed Vazquez, Julia Beasley, Keith DeMerchant, Ryan Campbell, Susie Fehrmann, Tom Nowell and Donna Deyorio approved the motion. All Commission members present were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a. Friends of Ninigret Park Subcommittee Report:

Friends of Ninigret Park Subcommittee member Cheryl Dowdell reported that the updated Master Plan was discussed at the March Friends of Ninigret Park Meeting and a bond was discussed for Ninigret Park.

b. Ninigret Park Dog Park Facility Subcommittee Report:

Sunny Cummings mentioned the Dog Park Subcommittee will have the spring meeting on the first Saturday in April.

12. COMMISSION COMMENTS:

Keith DeMerchant mentioned he had a great time at the Dog Park and saw people playing disc golf.

Ryan Campbell mentioned he was looking forward to the updated Master Plan.

13. NEXT MEETING DATE – TUESDAY April 22, 2014 AT 7:00 PM in the Town Council Chambers at 4540 South County Trail

14. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was motioned to adjourn at 8:16 PM by Richard Horstmann.

Respectfully Submitted by Rebecca Crosby

The public is welcome to any meeting of the Town of Charlestown Parks and Recreation Commission.

If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captions) is needed or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please contact (711-364-1240) at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting.