



Parks and Recreation Committee
Regular Meeting
Minutes, March 5, 2018; 4:30 PM
Council Chambers

ITEM 1

CALL TO ORDER: 4:30 PM – The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair John Kelly. Committee members present were Eric Ankrom, Greg Veilleux, Tommy Parham, and Committee Liaison Public Works Director Chip Reeves. Others in attendance were MDI YMCA Jennifer VanDongen, YWCA MDI Gail Leiser, Indivisible MDI Amy Roebuck and Resident Pete Bono.

ITEM 2

Excused Absence(s): Chair Jeff Dobbs.

ITEM 3

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. Veilleux moved, with second by Mr. Parham, to approve the Agenda; motion passed (4-0).

ITEM 4

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of February 5, 2018. Mr. Veilleux moved, with second by Mr. Parham, to approve the Minutes; motion passed (4-0).

ITEM 5

REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Request from the MDI YMCA to Hold its Annual Acadia Half-Marathon on the Athletic Field from 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM on Sunday, June 3, 2018.

Ms. VanDongen represented the applicant in support of the application. The application fee and insurance liability certificate have been received. The Committee, having previewed the application, suspended the reading of the Finding of Facts Sheet for this repeating annual event which has no changes, other than the date of the event.

As Executive Director of the MDI YMCA, Committee member Parham recused himself regarding the approval vote for this application. Mr. Ankrom moved, with second by Mr. Veilleux, to approve the application; motion passed (3-0).

B. Request from the MDI YMCA to Hold its Annual Bar Harbor Bank and Trust Half-Marathon on the Athletic Field from 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM on Saturday, September 15, 2018.

Ms. VanDongen represented the applicant in support of the application. The application fee and insurance liability certificate have been received. The Committee, having previewed the application, suspended the reading of the Finding of Facts Sheet for this repeating annual event which has no changes, other than the date of the event.

As Executive Director of the MDI YMCA, Committee member Parham recused himself regarding the approval vote for this application. Mr. Veilleux moved, with second by Mr. Ankrom, to approve the application; motion passed (3-0).

C. Request from the Indivisible MDI (Sponsor is YWCA MDI) to Hold a Maine Mothers' March 2018 on the Village Green from 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM on Saturday, May 12, 2018.

Mses Leiser and Roebuck represented the applicant in support of the application. The application fee, insurance liability certificate and Internal Revenue Service (IRS) non-profit statement have been received. Ms. Leiser compared this event with that of the 2017 climate march, which hoped for 30 participants and realized about 600 people. This year's march is to honor the origins of Mothers' Day, which began as an anti-war effort. The program will rally at the Village Green, march to the Town Pier, and return with the message of peace, love and the planet. The plans include organizations that support women's issues, the environment and peace via speakers, informational materials, poetry and music. Representation from the YWCA MDI, Next Step, Mabel Wadsworth Center and others will present two- to five-minute talks. The services of the local Police Department will be on hand to assist with the orderliness of the event. In the event of rain, the informational tables would be moved inside at the YWCA MDI.

Ms. Leiser said that organizations may want to solicit donations. The applicant was advised that the Park Use Ordinance allows only non-profit retail sales by a Bar Harbor-based entity (i.e., the YWCA MDI) during this minor event. Ms. Leiser said that other groups would be told that no funds may be collected on-site.

Mr. Veillieux wished good luck to the group and moved, with second by Mr. Parham, to approve the application; motion passed (4-0).

D. Memorial Bench / Plaque: Pete Bono Proposal for Memorial Benches and Plaques for Installation on Town Park.

At the invitation of the Committee, Mr. Bono presented his proposal to donate to the Town two memorial benches with plaques for installation at Grant Park. The benches would be identical to the existing benches. He has ordered plaques from a reputable provider, which are consistent with existing plaques, and provided pictures of the proof and samples. His pictures also illustrated the current bench locations and how two additional benches would fit into the scenario. Mr. Bono's family would like to have a dedication ceremony for Labor Day weekend.

The proposed bronze plaque is 3½ inches tall by 10 inches wide and thinner than an existing bench plaque, so as to not cause discomfort when leaning against. It includes four pre-drilled holes for screws. Mr. Reeves agreed that the width is not too obtrusive; the sample could be adopted as a template standard and added to the Park Use Ordinance. Mr. Kelly remarked that the plaque width should not be bigger.

Mr. Reeves recommended that Mr. Bono directly order and pay for the benches and plaques. There is a six-week lead time for delivery. The Town would anchor them, replace underlying pavers, and would also install the plaques. He will speak with Finance Director Stan Harmon regarding a bench replacement fund for donations.

Mr. Parham moved, with second by Mr. Veilleux, to accept the donation of two benches and plaques as proposed and that the plaque specifications are hereby the standard design; motion passed (4-0). Mr. Veilleux moved, with second by Mr. Parham, to amend this motion to include the provisions that requests for memorial donations would go through the same vetting process as this instance, and that consideration to accept would be given toward need and planned project(s); motion passed (4-0).

Mr. Veilleux remarked that Mr. Bono's proposal was great and honorable. Mr. Kelly said he appreciates the work involved. The Committee thanked Mr. Bono for his generosity and work.

E. Park Use Ordinance: General Discussion. This Item is tabled for a future discussion, to include the scheduling of back-to-back events and donations.

F. Village Green Art Display Layout. This Item is tabled for a future discussion in the fall, to include a fresh look at the layout after the season's art shows.

**ITEM 6
NEXT MEETING DATE
As needed.**

**ITEM 7
ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 5:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Banis
Recording Secretary