



Parks and Recreation Committee
Regular Meeting
Minutes, March 18, 2019; 4:30 PM
Council Chambers

ITEM 1

CALL TO ORDER: 4:32 PM – The meeting was called to order by Chair Jeff Dobbs. Committee members present were Tommy Parham and John Kelly. Others in attendance were Jennifer Britz of the MDI YMCA, Heather Bunker, and Carrie Jones, President of the (MDI) Rotary Club.

ITEM 2

Excused Absence(s): Eric Ankrom and Gregory Veilleux.

ITEM 3

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: *The Parks and Recreation Committee allows at this time up to fifteen minutes of public comment on any subject not on the agenda, and not in litigation, with a maximum of three minutes per person.* – None.

ITEM 4

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Mr. Kelly moved, with second by Mr. Parham, to approve the Agenda; motion passed (3-0).

ITEM 5

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes of February 4, 2019. Mr. Kelly moved, with second by Mr. Parham, to approve the Minutes; motion passed (3-0).

ITEM 6

REGULAR BUSINESS

A. Request from the MDI YMCA to Hold its Annual Acadia Half-Marathon and 10K Race 2019 on the Athletic Field from 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM on Sunday, June 2, 2019.

As Executive Director of the MDI YMCA, Mr. Parham recused himself from voting on this item; the Committee accepted his recusal.

Ms. Britz represented the applicant in support of the application. The application fee and insurance liability certificate have been received. The reading of the Findings of Fact Sheet was waived for this annual event as there are no changes other than the date of the event.

Mr. Kelly moved, with second by Mr. Dobbs, to approve the application; motion passed (2-0).

B. Request from the MDI YMCA to Hold its Annual Bar Harbor Bank and Trust Half-Marathon and 5K Race 2019 on the Athletic Field from 7:00 AM to 11:00 AM on Saturday, September 21, 2019.

This record shows that Mr. Parham remained recused from voting on this item.

Ms. Britz represented the applicant in support of the application. The application fee and insurance liability certificate have been received. The reading of the Findings of Fact Sheet was waived for this annual event as there are no changes other than the date of the event.

Mr. Kelly moved, with second by Mr. Dobbs, to approve the application; motion passed (2-0).

C. Request from Heather Bunker to Hold the Bunker-Goff Wedding Ceremony at Hadley Point Landing from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM on Saturday, June 22, 2019.

Ms. Bunker represented the applicant in support of the application and described the arrangements. Approximately 100 guests will be in attendance for the ceremony to occur at 12 noon. Ten to 20 chairs for individuals needing to be seated will be set up in a circle to surround the wedding couple and officials, with other attendees standing. The set-up will be placed to the right side of the beach. The application timeframe allows for pre-cleaning of the area of debris that may cause tripping hazards. Minimal parking of up to ten vehicles on the beach will accommodate the wedding party and mobility-challenged guests. Others will be strongly encouraged to carpool and park along one side of Hadley Point Road, so marked for temporary parking with the approval of the Police Department.

Mr. Kelly expressed concern that any beach clean-up not disturb the natural environment; i.e., removal of sea weed. Chair Dobbs strongly recommended carpooling and the employment of a police officer to assist with the parking. Chair Dobbs read the Findings of Fact Sheet for this application.

Mr. Kelly moved, with Mr. Parham, to approve the application, conditional that: 1) the natural condition of the beach is not disturbed; 2) carpooling is maximized; 3) the Police Department is engaged for traffic control. The motion passed as conditioned (3-0).

D. Bar Harbor (MDI) Rotary Club: Carrie Jones Request to Install a Little Free Library at the Park Street Playground.

Ms. Jones represented the Rotary Club with its proposal to install and maintain an enclosure to house a free book exchange, known as the Little Free Library Program, at the Park Street Playground. The purpose is to promote literacy and a sense of community. Photographs of sample structures were provided. The structure can hang from a fence or be installed on a post. She said the Rotary would take responsibility to construct, install, and, although considered all-weather, would remove and store in winter as needed. The Club would stock with books for all ages and inspect the set-up. It would include signage of whom to contact. The preferred location is near the gate on School Street across from the YMCA.

Mr. Parham said he likes the concept, especially for summer reading when students tend to lose such gains from the school year. He added that the YMCA staff could help monitor the offering since they are at the Park Street Playground every day. Chair Dobbs considers that the readership would dictate the choices and different venues could be tried. Mr. Kelly referred

her to check with Public Works Director Chip Reeves for placement. He stressed frequent monitoring as well. He extended appreciation to the Rotary for its efforts.

Mr. Kelly moved, with second by Mr. Parham, to approve the Little Free Library at the Park Street Playground with the stipulation that it be monitored weekly and to return to this Committee in one year to evaluate. The motion was approved as stipulated (3-0).

ITEM 7
NEXT MEETING DATE
As needed.

ITEM 8
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 5:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Suzanne Banis
Recording Secretary