

Parks and Recreation Commission August 12, 2021

Minutes of the meeting of August 12, 2021. The meeting took place remotely via Zoom with members Tom Desmond, Michael Cozort, Jack Gardner, Merrill McCluskey and Andrew Cromartie in attendance.

Call to Order- Chair Tom Desmond called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM. Script for remotely conducted meetings was read by Maureen Coleman.

Approval of Agenda- Agenda was approved by Michael Cozort; seconded by Jack Gardner. All in favor by roll call vote.

Election of Officers- Michael Cozort nominated Chair Thomas Desmond to remain Chair; seconded by Jack Gardner. All in favor by roll call vote. Mr. Cozort suggested advance discussion of election and role responsibilities.

Michael Cozort nominated Jack Gardner to continue his role as Community Preservation Commission representative; seconded by Andrew Cromartie. All in favor by roll call vote.

Michael Cozort nominated Andrew Cromartie to Vice Chair; seconded by Jack Gardner. Michael Cozort nominated Merrill McCluskey to Secretary. Both nominations in favor by roll call vote.

Officer Jerry Mack reviewed downtown activity at Children's Beach. With so many people on island, it's inevitable groups will congregate after hours in available spaces. He noted Officer Duce reported kids were not a problem at a recent concert at the Children's Beach bandstand/ pavilion. Chair Desmond asked Children's Beach concessionaire Rebecca Chapa if the situation has improved which she replied, not better, in a holding pattern, but not the destruction in May. Ms. Chapa observed kids drinking on video cameras she installed in the area and she suggested installing cameras in other locations for additional coverage. Officer Mack commented the White Elephant has a camera to pan the beach.

Nantucket Softball League representative Nicole Tejada was unavailable for the meeting to discuss charity softball game.

Director of Municipal Finance Brian Turbitt presented the Commission with an update of Nobadeer Field House (NFH). Mr. Turbitt reviewed past monetary allocations, Massachusetts procurement guidelines related to NFH and discussed timeline for construction. Chair Desmond suggested Nobadeer Fields be "heavily cameraed" with an alarm system, to deter vandalism. Mr. Cozort volunteered his time and experience to attend construction meetings as a representative of Parks and Recreation.

Nantucket Island Fair representative Brooke Mohr confirmed, due to Covid, proceeding with the Island Fair at Tom Nevers would be cancelled. Risking tent deposits would be costly to the committee considering funds are limited. They are exploring "Spirit of the Island" at the Atheneum Garden or Sustainable Nantucket Farmers & Artisans Market.

Ms. Chapa reported they continue to wear masks, she is down to a skeleton crew and will close Labor Day. She inquired as to the status of Children's Beach concession contract. Ms. Chapa stated the Atheneum Dance Festival was outstanding and a wonderful working relationship experience.

Mr. Desmond explained the concept behind Parks Partner Program leading to support of parks and fields by businesses and users, leads to better assets. He is gathering user lists of the facilities to coordinate promotion of active and passive partners.

Mr. Desmond suggested adding pictures and descriptions of parks to the Town website. Possibly, rotate or showcase one park on a seasonal basis, "beef-up the webpage." Commission members suggested fixing dropped links, listing

activities at each location and including non-traditional activities held at the parks, i.e. Atheneum Dance Festival or Dreamland Drive-In.

Mr. Desmond requested a schedule of Fall Maintenance from DPW for aerating and over seeding at fields. Ms. Chapa stated she received a negative email from Brant Point Association regarding the conditions of Children's Beach.

Jack Gardner adjourned the meeting at 4:50 PM; seconded by Andrew Cromartie. Unanimous decision by roll call vote.