

September 25, 2019
Clinton Parks & Recreation Meeting Minutes
6:00pm
Clinton Parks & Recreation Building
560 High Street

Commencement: 6:03PM

Vice Chair Osborne calls meeting to order.

In Attendance: Commissioners John Baird, Matt Kobus, Yoanna Osborne, Edward Verrier, Director Rosa Kairit

Vice Chair Osborne acknowledged Director Kairit's efforts during her time in filling both roles of Recreation Coordinator and Director. Dir. Kairit confirmed the hiring of Ms. Maya Pagoaga.

Administrative:

-Review and Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes –

- 8/28 (Regular Board Meeting)
**Vice Chair Osborne brought attention to discrepancies within the 8/28 meeting minutes as some of the content within the minutes was not discussed at the previous meeting. Comm. Kobus made a motion to table the approval of the meeting minutes in order to resolve Vice Chair Osborne's concerns. Vice Chair Osborne 2nd the motion. Motion supported unanimously.*

Parks & Recreation:

1. *Review, update and vote on Naming Policies and Procedures (All - 15 mins)

**Vice Chair provided copies of the history of Clinton parks and their naming rights. The commission reviewed the draft distributed by Chair Breidel at the previous meeting. Comm. Kobus indicated that naming consideration should be expanded beyond an individual's impact on a particular park to any contribution to society. Comm. Kobus made a motion to accept the Clinton Parks Naming Policies and Procedures set forth in the draft with the added amendment: "Parks & Recreation reserves the right to remove naming of parks, park areas and facilities in situations when the honoree is not in line with the values of the department or its mission statement." Comm. Baird 2nd the motion. Motion supported unanimously.*

2. *Review and vote on request to dedicate Skateboard Park after Vincent Gareffi (All - 5 mins)

**Vice Chair Osborne referred to the letter submitted on behalf of the Gareffi Family to consider naming the Clinton Skate Park in honor of Mr. Vincent Gareffi. The initial request was submitted in July 2019. Vice Chair Osborne read the heartfelt letter. Mr.*

Gareffi was very involved in various projects around the skate park, and was a well known skateboard enthusiast. If the skate park was to relocate, the naming of the park will remain. Comm. Kobus made a motion to approve Mrs. Gaw's request to name the skate park named after Mr. Vincent Gareffi based upon his contributions to the Savage Field Skate Park and the Clinton Skating Community as consistent with the Parks and Recreation Parks Naming Policies and Procedures, with the naming and signage receiving final approval of the commission. Comm. Verrier 2nd the motion. Motion supported unanimously.

3. *Review and vote on plaque request for John E. O'Malley at Duffy Park (update from Rosa/All vote - 15 mins)

**Dir. Kairit was provided with the dimensions of the plaque, and will continue to progress.*

4. *CALL Plaque Update (3-5 Minutes)

**Comm. Kobus sought to inform the commission of finalizing a finished concrete pedestal for the plaque. Originally was seeking to install granite but the cost of the granite exceeded \$2,000. The precast pedestal would fit the aesthetics of the park and more affordable. CALL added interest in putting a couple of bushes around the monument. Dedication ceremony anticipated at the end of October. Comm. Baird made a motion to approve the material change of the pedestal. Comm. Verrier 2nd the motion. Motion supported unanimously with Comm. Kobus abstaining.*

5. *Savage Field Lighting Update (5-10 Minutes)

**Comm. Kobus raised concerns about the lighting structures at Savage Field, as conveyed by a letter prepared by a local electrical contractor. The Building Committee's recent meeting agenda included Savage Field. The Building Committee suggested that if the Parks and Recreation was to approve tabling the parking lot in favor of addressing the liability concerns of the existing lighting, then a legal opinion could be sought from town counsel. Vice Chair Osborne conveyed her frustration with not receiving any information about the Savage Field project in over one to two years. Dir. Kairit was very supportive of the endeavor based upon the appearance of the lighting and the cost savings on updated lighting. Comm. Verrier made a motion to approve using the remaining funds from Phase I to replace the lighting on the little league field. Comm. Baird 2nd the motion.*

*Two poles are completely out and not safe any longer. CALL had to rent sport lighting replacements. CALL President, Matt Kobus, attended Building Committee Meeting (but as a private citizen) which manages remaining funds for Savage Field Renovation. Approximately \$180,000 remain to finish paving to redo parking spaces.
Little League Field Lights ~ \$120,000 (not including installation)*

Softball Field ~ \$185-195,000

*Musco Lighting = *Wood poles no longer allowed; uses substantially less electricity; only need 4 poles instead of 6; reduction of light pollution - light*

stays within boundaries. 25 year warranty – if a light goes out, it gets replaced. Monitored from a satellite location.

Estimated cost total lighting replacement for all of Savage Field = \$500-600,000

Matt suggested we could get additional funding from the Landfill Enterprise Fund – maybe? Window to have this work done in time for next spring is closing. Jay Laganelli has been the driving force behind presenting the information at the town hall, etc.

Matt informed the board that the Commission needs to vote to officially transfer the remaining funds toward the lighting as it wasn't dedicated to that purpose in the original warrant the voters approved. Matt wanted to explore the possibility of whatever legal process needs to occur to make this effort happen and then execute it, especially to get the ball rolling so the equipment can be installed in time and it doesn't impact their (CALL) season next year (or else they may not have one was the implication).

Yoanna had an emotional moment realizing how long the board has worked on this project and not heard anything concrete about its progress nor the funds and what has to happen next.

Ed motioned to release the funds and give Matt the authority to pursue the matter; John 2nd the motion; all in favor; 1 abstention

Motion supported unanimously with Comm. Kobus abstaining.

6. *Savage Little League Field Roofed Dugouts and Dugout Doors (5 Minutes)

**Comm. Kobus informed the commission that CALL is interested in donating roofed structures to the existing concrete slabbed dugouts at Savage Field. CALL would cover 100% of the costs and would not require any financial contribution by the Parks and Recreation Department. Comm. Baird made a motion to allow CALL to donate roofed structures over the existing dugouts at Savage Field. Comm. Verrier 2nd the motion. Motion supported unanimously with Comm. Kobus abstaining.*

Comm. Kobus echoed CALL Safety Officer, Mr. John McNally's concerns about the dugouts not having doors on them as a safety concern.

7. *Savage Little League Field Porta-Potty Relocation (<3 Minutes)

**Comm. Kobus requested relocating porta-potty located at the Little League field to the left field of the softball field next to the other two existing. The current location is close to where the seating area is and was viewed undesirably by patrons. Dir. Kairit stated she would contact the company for relocation.*

8. *Update on CP&R 172 Sterling Street Property Proposal (Sub-Committee - 15 mins)

**At the previous 172 Sterling Street Sub-Committee Meeting, Mr. Phil Duffy presented information at the subcommittee meeting 172 Sterling Street and the contaminants. Mr. Duffy stated the Town of Clinton would be seeking to complete a two phase study, and then options would be analyzed. The subcommittee restated that the objective of the initiative is to express interest in transforming the property into green space.*

9. *CP&R Staffing and Program updates (Rosa - 15 mins)

**Vice Chair Osborne praised Dir. Kairit for her involvement in the "Go for Family" held at Central Park. This event was in collaboration with the Senior Center. The event included face painting, cornhole, inflatables, an ice cream truck and a DJ. The event was supported by a \$500 grant and inventory/supplies from Clinton Parks and Recreation to cover the costs of the event. Additionally, Avidia Bank donated water bottles. Vice Chair Osborne was very impressed and very proud of the efforts lead by Director Kairit.*

Adjournment: Comm. Kobus motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:06PM. Comm. Baird 2nd. Unanimously approved.

John 7:23PM. Matt 2nd.