

## **Clinton Parks & Recreation Commission**

**(Board Meeting began @ 5:30pm. 2/29/16)**

**Present:** Ed V., Carly C., Joe R., Jamie J. and Yoanna O. – (Emily E. and Kaylee G.).  
Phil Duffy – Clinton Economic Development Office (left before Budget discussion)

**Minutes from 1/11/16** – Jamie motioned to accept; Joe 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor, 5-0

### **ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:**

#### **Overview of FY17 Budget Submitted -**

Started at salary grid and added 3% increase (not sure other towns are using the same salary grid source). FinCom asked for level funded budget. Miscellaneous Expenses, ideally should be paid for out of Operating Budget, not the Revolving Fund. Historically all the parks are maintained from this one budget that addresses Central Park mostly (one reason is that two of our trucks needs new tires which is expensive). No fertilization budget at the Acre Park which is needed. Big leap for SplashPad repair and have the lines prepped for winter, etc. Tree work and bike racks to be added.

Yoanna mentioned having a running list of possible donations to be paid for by interested parties that wouldn't otherwise be funded at Town Meeting.

Recreation Wages will cover for Kaylee's maternity leave, Emily's leave of absence and an assistant to Kaylee when Summer Playground is underway. (Revolving fund for 19 hours per week to handle registrations, etc.).

Building Committee (formed for capital building improvements) in town was concerned that it wasn't consulted about Savage Field improvements. Different situation than usual that we worked with GALE Associates who has all those experts already on their team. Emily will set up a meeting with Chris McGown to tie up any loose end.

#### **Capital Budget Projects** – (what do we want to ask for this year)

*o Lighting Project at Central Park* – Not just downtown, stretches from NYPRO Union St. to Water St.; Railroad Tracks to Buck Furniture and up to Walnut St.

Quotes (3 current, one more left next week): \$52K for 8 poles just materials (Black pole with two arms upward, non- glass lanterns; 12-14ft. high depending – located at 4 corners and on diagonal paths). No opening on the one of the park sides, so symmetry is lacking.

Labor is \$20-30K (includes trenching, running electrical, etc.). Emily is going with the higher quote and not changing the center pole; however, if we switch out the old pole, the new one (less decorative) would be \$5K and National Grid can remove the hardware. But if there is any damage due to their work, we must fix it at our cost (because they can't guaranty what damage will occur, i.e., wrecked sidewalks due to pulling concrete anchors out so close to the sidewalks). Technician doesn't really know yet until they have to dig it out. No guarantees about results and no compensation expected. Central Park is included in the Master Plan that will affect the overall updating in the entire district. (Master Plan now – initializing an overall study that will take several years to implement). However, no reason not to proceed with our efforts.

Lighting source, cageless LED fixtures which illuminate more effectively sound like the right way to go; however, this meeting is only to determine whether or not to pursue the actual details. Parking light brightness is being recommended, not anything brighter. Central pole will still be needed due to irrigation box, powers outlets on flagpole and two other useable outlets.

Anticipating \$97-100K, including incidentals. Working with a state contractor who is already vetted and gone out to bid for all these materials through the state. Therefore, we don't have to do a lot of preliminary research. Estimating \$100K for lighting project.

*o Gazebo*- Estimated \$40K, includes tree work pruning (deadwooding, ~\$3K only); \$37K

*o Fountain* – a must project! Estimated \$15K (new pump, pump system, chlorinator system, safer drain covers, chemical dispensing system, remove chaulking and resealing, leak detection under sidewalk with state-of-the-art equipment, incidentals included). Actual quote is \$13,500 in case we need to call in an electrician or something comes up during installation. (Ex.: tree removal - didn't anticipate reseeding the ground, etc. Don't rely on an exact quote again).

*o Security System*– **\*\***(only time to meet with one contractor so far). Estimating \$8K for installing the pole entirely. Electrical work \$5-6K (2 people/2 hours). Need new base poured and pole installed, dig proper footing with scaffold built up (sidewalks can't support a crane). In addition to the \$20K quoted for the camera already decided on.

Savage Field & Fountain are necessary. Discouraged about lighting project and security system seems to push everyone's buttons. Lanscape architect to assess Central Park for an overall master plan would be a more strategic move. A second skating rink is a possibility. Another flagpole would be beneficial

Gazebo Vote: 1-In favor; 3 – Not in favor; 1 - Abstention

## **RECREATION:**

**Farmer's Market**- Nicole Malone (Discover Clinton connected), coordinating another event in conjunction with the items below. Location projected to be on the Icon Musuem side (10-4). Live music, refreshments, etc., leading to a weekly event in the summer with a focus on artisan offerings. (Low maintenance).

**Townwide Yardsale** – 3rd year coming up in June; dovetails with Sidewalk Sales on High St. on the same day with a focus on local artists' sales and crafts people.

**Movie in the Park** – May 14<sup>th</sup> @ 7:45pm (opening at 7pm for concessions). Italian ice, cotton candy, candy bars. Jamie suggested approaching the new Soda Fountain on High St. to participate. “The Minions” movie to be shown, bring the community out to frolic at the Park.

**Summer Playground**— March 7<sup>th</sup> registration; 1<sup>st</sup> 200 participants will get a free water bottle! Age 15 cutoff for Teen Adventure.

**Softball Registrations** – Numbers are a little bit low. So one team maybe cut and players added to other teams in order to go forward.

## **PARKS:**

### **Central Park:**

- *Sign Near Fountain* - Telling patrons to stay off of it: unsanitary and not the correct use. Emily is getting a quote for a classy, plaque image (scrolled edges, brass, etc.) that will blend with the scenery and not look out of place, potential match to the existing Rules Sign.
- *Planter on High Street* - Returning to former locations. Emily approached business owners to help maintain the plants since we don't have the proper equipment to water effectively so many. Plan to use the existing six planters for this year to see how it goes overall.

**Savage Field:** Phase One (the parking lot, repositioning the skate park and reattaching elements to the skate park, creation of playground, picnic pavilion with picnic tables, non-decorative floodlights on sensors initially, some irrigation work in the center area – “french drain” (hole filled with rocks channeling water to the pipes transitionally). Jamie suggested that we invite Rep. Harold Naughton to speak to our board about the Nashua River Cleanup and how it intersects with what we are doing. What we are proposing will help with the flood prevention issue. Yoanna mentioned the DCR grant for bringing attention to Open Space use, but we don't qualify to use those funds due to the narrow intent of this money.

- *Storage Container* – donated by Little League (to be maintained by them) for storage of supplies to prevent equipment theft. It will be positioned in the back of the current parking lot which will take away some of the current spaces. Jamie asked if the other storage shed would still be used, and the Women's League will do so but need to find a way to lock it. Yoanna motioned to allow the Little League to put the shed in place and maintain it; Jamie 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor, 5-0.
- *Fencing Quotes & Repairs* – Gate on the CP&R building, fence at the Acre for repair, and various other spots. Little League field doesn't have a pulley system to pull the nets up when not in use. Emily met with two companies thus far. \$1400 vs. \$1800 (Emily recommending B&B Co., in Leominster due to their expertise and confidence in the project whereas the other company seemed less professional). Fencing appears to be “band-aided” and spiked ends need to be addressed to be safe for the players. Net was attached to the conduit and snow pulled the net from the poles (\$1160 to be reattached with a bucket truck, using eyelets via the Fire Dept.). Jamie motioned to accept, Carly 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor, 5-0.

### **Other:**

- *Coachlace Nursing Home Property* – Two acre parcel and nothing will be happening with this building; it needs to be demolished. Originally a plan to put a town beach in there. It would be great to acquire as a town property (reimbursement grant, very competitive). Strategic planning for the future would be looking ahead with this piece and Charlie Moran's property which is contiguous to this one. Town Beach would be another whole can of worms with regulations up the yingyang.

**Adjourned meeting @ 5:30pm.** - Jamie motioned to adjourn; Joe 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor, 5-0. Next meeting scheduled for **March 14 at 5:30pm.**