Minutes of the November 13th, 2017

Winslow Park Commission Meeting

6:30 PM

@ Freeport Town Hall

As produced by Neil Lyman

Winslow Park Manager and Winslow Park Commission Secretary

In Attendance- George Connick, Karissa Davan, Lucy Lloyd, Nancy Marquis, Kim Swett, Carla Dupuis, Neil Lyman (Park Manager

Absent- Robin Baron, Steve James, Peter Anzuini

Meeting convened at 6:35

The Minutes of the September 11th, 2017 meeting were approved

**Old Business:**

* Neil Lyman reported that one bid was received for the construction of the new garage for the park. The bid was from Dotens Construction of Freeport in the amount of $158,800. This price was above the parks current budget for the project of approximately $125,000. Neil reported that he and representatives from Dotens Construction are currently in negotiations to alter building plans in order to bring the project within budget and still meet the parks needs.
* Neil Lyman provided Karissa Davan with a basic scope of what the park would require for online reservations.

**New Business:**

* Neil Lyman reported extensive damage from the recent windstorm resulting in the loss of dozens of trees. He also reported that the loss of the large pines, especially in the wooded area north of the campground has become a yearly problem when high winter winds kick up. Neil Suggested setting aside a large amount of money and working with a forester to do large scale replanting of trees that will stand up to the harsh weather at the park.
  + George asked about residents along the road and whose responsibility it is to clean up damage along the road. Neil responded that the public works department has largely taken responsibility for damage along the road as well as assisting park staff with removal of debris from the park.
  + Karissa Davan stated that she believes the park needs the state forester involved to do a detailed plan for replanting and management
  + Karissa Davan and Carla Dupuis both suggested that this would be a good job for a student intern from a local college who could work with the state.
  + Carla Noted that intern help was used when the park did the large scale erosion control project.
* Neil Lyman Reported up to date earnings of approximately $310,000 which, when the new added taxes charged are factored in, is approximately the same as the previous year.

**Other Business:**

* Lucy Lloyd asked about dogs being off leash so far in the off season and asked if there had been any issues.
  + Neil stated that there had been some problems similar to past years with people not having control of dogs and pedestrians and their dogs blocking traffic in the road.
  + Carla noted that she had witnessed similar problems and that it is an issue every year and has been for a long time.
  + Neil noted that any changes to the dog policy become highly contested issues. When the issue has come up before the public in the past there is generally very differing views on how dogs should be handled within the park.
  + The Town does not have a full time animal control officer, but it was suggested that Neill speak to the clam warden, who frequents the park as part of his patrol, and ask him to help keep an eye on obvious infractions such as dogs in the road, dogs not under control and dog waste not being cleaned up.
* Karissa Davan expressed concern with park employees removing large pines in the camping area and asked about what work should be approved by commission members and what the commission members’ role specifically is.
  + Nancy Marquis also stated that she would like the role of the commission to be more clearly laid out.
  + George Connick stated that historically the manager has had general oversight of a majority of day to day and maintenance operations without commission approval.
  + Karissa said she would like to discuss and define rules and decision making responsibility.
  + Carla stated that the administrative code was posted on the Towns website which defines these responsibilities. Karissa stated she would like more clarity than what she had seen in this policy.
  + It was decided that more information should be looked through and that this topic should be discussed at the next commission meeting.
  + Neil suggested that George Connick, who has extensive knowledge of park policy in the past go through his information for anything that may help. Neil said he would do the same.
  + Carla asked that we try to have our annual meeting with the park trustee and possibly the money manager for the trust at the next meeting.
* It was decided to not have a December meeting and that the next meeting would occur in January.

**Public Comment:**

Meeting adjourned 8:06