

PARKS & EVENTS COMMITTEE MINUTES

August 18, 2008

Susan Dolan Co-Chair
Chris Sevick
Billy Shifflett
Irma Bast Staff

Chris True Co-Chair
Ivy Wells
Frank Robert Council liaison

The meeting was called to order by Susan Dolan.

A public discussion re: Burkett Park had been advertised, but there were no citizens present except those serving on the P&E committee. Planned uses for the excess grant money are two park benches, as well as the installation of two poles for use with proposed purchase of a volleyball net & ball for checkout by Town residents. This and the installation location was discussed. It was decided that a refundable deposit should be collected when the equipment is checked out. Frank will share this information with the Council. Irma will ask Matt about the progress of the bench order.

Budget: Frank Robert is donating \$500 from his Council stipend to P&E.

Although a separate meeting will be planned to discuss the use for these funds, a few suggestions were made for this money as well as for future purchases to plan for:

A portable awning, shuffle board, projector, backstop (for CIP) at Burkett Park, crock pots for concession stand, zip line or new equipment for parks, sound system, signage, stocking the pond (by the linear trail near tracks), splash park.

Future requests for Park repairs:

The committee will make a recommendation for the purpose of the reserve fund forward it to the Council. The committee feels it should be used for: enhancements to parks. Further thought will be given to this by each member & a written recommendation will be made.

South Branch Park: Parks & Events would like to have input into the development & will study the report from Sean Davis.

The Committee will recommend to the Council that 70% of the P&E excess funds for 07/08 be placed in the Reserve account and 30% be added to the 08/09 budget for P&E.

Family Fun Day:

Susan suggested that in the future a sub-committee be formed for organizing the event. Comments about "Ton of Fun" included: concern about pegs, The inspector didn't arrive, basketball inflatable didn't work very well. The games were well received. It was suggested that in the future, the volunteers be rotated for various duties. Volunteers: 40 signed up, 38 came, which was a good percentage of participation. The music was well received. Next year, P&E may for adults as well as kids. The wristbands worked very well, as did the stickers. Shakespeare turned out on Sat.; Sunday was rained out & will be done in the spring instead. (Maybe tied to Spring flower fest?) Coolers should be used for drinks rather than the refrigerator. Contrary Mary's webkin donation: next year coupons that are redeemable at her store should be given to encourage traffic/support in the store. Better signage to park location would be helpful. Police coverage is needed all day, especially near sales areas. Grass should have been a bit shorter. Vendor's would be considered, but not for sales; just advertising booths.

Concerts in the Park: Tabled until Ivy can present her report.

Sponsorship update Chris S. reported on Merritt Athletic Club's proposed level of sponsorship: signage for sponsorship. Frank mentioned that it has to be approved by the Council: Golf sponsor Panera Bread could be contacted for Park equipment/ beautification. Chris will contact a sporting equip corp for donations of sports equip. Hamburger Helper must wait until Feb

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Volunteers are set for Tues. evening to help Chief.

Halloween: \$150 is being donated by TriStar & gift certificates; free one month membership. On October 26th, the costume contest will combine with the Apple Butter Market. Vendors will be used as judges.

Holiday Decoration Judging: Signs & certificates: An ad will be placed in the town's newsletter for residents to have their holiday lights on during the evening of Dec 15th. There will be 5 winners & 5 honorable mentions.

New volunteers are needed for the committee. A high school Youth Liaison will be requested from the Council.

Oct 11th is Fall Festival. There will be no participation in Homecoming festivities this year.

Frank has contacted CC rep. about the Warfield cafeteria use as a recreation center. They also discussed a water trail beginning or ending at South Branch.

Meeting adjourned.

(emailed to the Committee 8/27/08)