

Madison Beach and Recreation Commission
Monthly Meeting on Tuesday February 4, 2020
At Town Campus Room D

In Attendance: Scot Erskine (Director), Mary Pat Nardino (Vice Chair), Shane Kokoruda, Vince Dussich, Pamela Greene, Rob Card (Chair)

Not In Attendance:

Guests: Ted Rahman (Bauer Park Committee), Bill Piggott (Salt Meadow Committee), Bruce Wilson (BOS Liaison), Davide Mendonca (Lifeguard)

The Chair Rob Card called the meeting at 6:58 pm.

I. **Approval of Minutes-Regular Meeting-January 7, 2020**

Shane approved Mary Pat seconded. Amend under survey results. All members were in favor of the minutes. The amendment for the survey results should include that Shane reported on the summary from the citizen survey results from approximately 500 respondents. He thought the responses were informative and would provide the commission with a blueprint on issues identified that needed attention in the coming year. Also, Vince said he found 4 issues that stood out in the results and comments. 1. The need for lifeguards/gate guards. 2. Parking issues and the need to revise the current beach pass system possibly getting back to older sticker system. 3. Better communication and the need to update our current website. 4. Maintenance of our buildings.

Special Meeting-January 21, 2020

Mary Pat made a motion to approve the minutes and Shane seconded. All members present were in favor.

II. **Public Comments-** Bruce was asking if the Commission was waiting for Peggy to announce the beach pass system and how it will work prior to February.

III. **Chairman's Report-** Rob mentioned that he spoke with Peggy by phone. She will have a Public Information Session on February 24, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. and wants the commission to attend to give an update on the beach pass system.

IV. **Director's Report-** the Beach and Recreation Fiscal Year Summary Report was discussed. At the Budget Workshop it was unanimous that the Town wants seven days of coverage at East Wharf and the Surf Club.

- **Revenue & Expense Report-** Scot updated the Commission on the report and went over it in detail.
- **Project updates**

1. **Summer Staffing Profile-** The Commission will be able to show the residents what the coverage and game plan will be for the Surf Club and East Wharf Beach. Scot spoke about the seven day coverage along with the prices of the beach passes. There was a discussion about the price for Non-residents weekend price and holidays. Scot had mentioned that Clinton sold 26 nonresident passes last year. Scot also mentioned to the committee the cost of the nonresident beach passes for surrounding towns to give them a comparison as to how they should be pricing the beach passes for nonresidents for daily passes along with weekends and holidays. Gate staff will be on duty by 8:00 a.m. There was a discussion from the committee if the nonresident fees should stay at two fees for Mon-Thurs and then Fri-Sun and holidays, or if it should change to three fees for the weekends, Holidays and week day fees.

2. **Website redesign status-** Shane mentioned that the online system be operational and that the department should prioritize the online system being the first task to be done instead of updating the splash page. He made a motion to recommend the director of the department and the It department to focus all of their attention and efforts on getting the online system up and running prior to April 1, 2020 so that the online beach passes be the priority over the online search capacity. Rob seconded the motion. All members present were in favor. Rob asked if Shane would be comfortable reaching out to either First Selectwoman Peggy Lyons or Art Sickle Director of IT to discuss and explain that the online system needs to be a priority and be able to see a process map of what is being done to get this task accomplished.

3. **Beach system plans-** The beach pass stickers are on order for the 28 of February. Some members of the commission expressed their concerns as to how a person can get a beach pass on a holiday if they do not have one prior.

- **Incidents/Complaints-**None
- **Section Reports-** None
- **Salt Meadow-** the Kayak launch was discussed. The committee is going through the survey plans to see if they need a permit. They would have to apply for the permit with the DEEP. They have three new members so they have seven full members now Ted mentioned.
- **Bauer Park-**Election of officers was done at the last meeting Bill mentioned. They are gearing up for the harvest festival to discuss at the Monday meeting.

- V. **Old Business**
- **Survey summary and PR draft-** Mary Pat drew up the survey. It is the summary of the results as to the points that were glaring and concerns of the public. She wants to put it in the source and put it on the Beach and Recreation Facebook and Twitter pages. The committee suggested that updates be made to the survey before being sent out. Pam motioned to approve the survey with edits as outlined. Vince seconded and all members present were in favor.
- VI. **New Business-** Hours of operation for life guards was discussed. There is an opportunity to vote on the rates for the beach passes. Shane motioned to accept the hours of operation as presented by the director and the fees for residential day pass, pass fee and nonresidential Mon-Thurs. \$40 and Fri-Sun and Holidays \$60 and Rob seconded. Amend the motion to say it is a recommendation to plan these hours as needed. All members present were in favor.
- VII. **Public Comments-** Bruce mentioned that parking passes should, as part of paying car taxes and that the public should get a beach pass along with paying their taxes. He mentioned the volunteers at Rockland Preserve and who they have done a wonderful job building it up. He suggests to the commission that the funding and staffing there move away from volunteer staffing and do municipal staffing. He feels that if one of those volunteer members moves or gets another hobby the Rockland Preserve will lose out and so will the town.
- VIII. **Adjournment-** Rob motioned to adjourn at 9:02 pm and Vince seconded. All members present were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristen Panzo