



TOWN OF BARNSTABLE BARNSTABLE RECREATION DIVISION

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RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES 6 June 2011 - Corrected

Commission Members Present: Joe O'Brien – Chairman, Rene King, Kathy Pina, Kevin Turner

Commission Members Absent: Clyde Takala, Andy Gauthier, Dan Proto

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm, roll call was taken. **Kathy Pina** made a motion to accept the minutes from May 2nd, seconded by **Rene King**.

On behalf of the Recreation Commission, **Joe O'Brien** made a gift presentation to **David Curley**, who recently retired as Director of Recreation. **Joe** expressed his appreciation and gratitude to **David** for all of his years of service and dedication. **David** thanked the Commission for their acknowledgement. David said it was a pleasure working with the members of the Commission. David commented that they are a solid group and they always wanted to do the right thing. He praised their dedication and their passion. **Kathy Pina** commented that a group is only as good as its leader. She said David was always for the kids.

Tony and Lance Panigutti owners of **Without Limits Productions** were introduced as the company that will be heading up the Sprint Triathlon on June 11, 2011 at Craigville Beach. They pick up where Rich Havens leaves off. Tony and Lance have raced around the world. They started their business in Colorado and look forward to working on the Cape. They have had a long, distinguished relationship with Rich and praised Rich for providing a template for them to follow. They look forward to carrying on his tradition and legacies with safety being number one. Their mindset is "how much can we give back to the athlete and how can get the local community involved"? To date, they have 850 entrants for this year's triathlon. **Joe O'Brien** offered the Commission's assistance should **Tony and Lance** need anything at all. **Joe O'Brien** invited Tony and Lance back for the July 11th, 2011 meeting to discuss June's event and talk in preparation of September's event.

Jo Anne Miller-Buntich, Director of Growth Management, and **Kate Kennen**, Growth Management, presented a Conceptual Master Plan (attached) for Ridgewood Park. This plan developed about a year ago and began with a meeting with the residents of the neighborhood. This is not the final plan. This plan was developed so a budget could be established in order to apply for funding. Three of the neighbors are in attendance tonight. Jo Anne is planning to apply for state funds to accomplish the project. The plan requires a local match and Jo Anne is working with the Councilors to see if the order will be put forward. The Conceptual Plan shows low-key, low maintenance park which is what the neighbors asked for. Once the funds are received, Growth Management will hold another meeting with the neighborhood and finalize the design. **Kate** explained that two meetings were held with the community. The first one for

brainstorming and ideas. The second one brought back three options to the neighborhood and the conceptual plan combines those three options. Changes to be made include:

- Closing Maple Street for decrease in traffic flow
- New crosswalks
- Loop system within the park so walking or riding a bike around the perimeter
- Open lawn area – low maintenance with a grassy knoll area
- Habitat gardens
- Play area – swing set, artistic play element, natural grass maze
- Butterfly garden
- Low – level lighting
- Signage program stating that “Park Closes at Dusk”

Rene King suggested symbolic pavement markings to slow speeds down might be fitting with the tranquil environment. **Kate** said a maintenance plan has been discussed and they have discussed including a two-year contractor maintenance agreement in the construction documents. **Jo Anne** also mentioned the possibility of an Adopt-A-Spot program.

Mary Richmond, Ridgewood Park neighborhood resident ~ she totally supports the idea of cleaning up the park. She is hoping the improvements will deter the people that are hanging out there now and they will move on. **Joe O’Brien** thinks this is a great idea. It is promoting an opportunity for kids. **Jo Anne** stated this is a multi-generational park. **Rene King**, being an advocate for our youth, asked **Kate** to look for opportunities to connect with a Tech school for their expertise. **Kate** stated the more community ownership, the better. Anyone interested in helping is more than welcome. **Jo Anne** stated that Growth Management has an active Americorps program and she will have them put this park on their work list for yearly maintenance.

New Business **None**

Old Business

The second Zumbathon will be taking place at the HYCC on June 12, 2011 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. The fee is \$10 to participate or \$35 to sponsor a child. **Rene** is pleased to say there will be additional instructors attending and with them come more participants. The first Zumbathon had a participant, Joanne Burke, share her experience on her travels to India and they will incorporate this into this year’s Zumbathon using the multi-cultural room. She will serve culturally diverse refreshments.

Kevin Turner brought the commission up-to-date on the Nate Nickerson project. The dedication will be at the West Barnstable Village Day on August 20, 2011. The family is excited and old teammates will be attending.

Public Comment **None**

Director's Report Presented by Lynne Poyant. Community Services Director

Since David's retirement, Lynne commented that the staff is working hard through team work. In regards to staffing, through the early retirement program the Director of Recreation position, is not eligible to be immediately filled. **Lynne** is spending a lot of time at HYCC. The HYCC General Manager position has been advertised and closes on June 24, 2011. Looking to have this position filled in late August, early September. **Kevin Turner** asked who Patti Machado reported to now and **Lynne** said Patti reports to her. **Kevin** asked when the position vacated by David could be replaced and **Lynne** explained that six people took advantage of the program and only three can be immediately replaced. The Director's position was not one of them and **Lynne** is not sure of the exact date that it can be filled. **Kevin** inquired about who, from the Town, will now be connecting to the Recreation Commission and **Lynne** stated that it is her. **Kathy Pina** commented that HYCC is one of the biggest things in the Town. "Should it be left alone for that long?" **Lynne** stated that she is on site. **Kathy** stated that she meant for the day-to-day operations when David was there at 4:30 am to open the building. It is a big job and **Kathy** is not saying the staff now is not fulfilling it but questions why filling David's position was not a priority when David announced his decision to retire. **Lynne** explained that the new position had to be included in the budget process and that is when the money for the new General Manager was appropriated. **Rene King** stated that her concerns with activities that we had last year and there were a number of unfortunate circumstances. Now that we are in peak season (aquatic staffing) she is concerned. **Kevin** explained that we hire the most seasonal employees now and who will be overseeing that. **Lynne** explained that **Patti Machado** supervises the aquatic program. **Kevin** asked who is Patti's support? **Kathy Pina** explained the reasoning behind all of the questions is they feel like they are in the dark and no one from the Town has given the Commission any information about what is going on. **Kathy** feels the Commission should be privy to some sort of information so when they are questioned from people on the street, they will have answers. **Lynne** stated that she understood their concern and any one of the members could have called her at any time with their questions and concerns. **Lynne** is on site to make sure everything is running smoothly and properly. The staff has stepped up to the plate – they have pride in their jobs. **Rene** stated that when there is a transition, it is good to keep a hand on the pulse. The Commission wants to know that from the outside in perspective, there is a smooth transition. The more information available allows the Commission to answer people's questions. **Joe O'Brien** echoes the sentiments of the Commissioners. He knows as far as the staff is concerned, Recreation has great staff. He had no worries that everyone would pitch in. **Kathy** asked, for the record, if for the July meeting, each Program head could provide an update regarding their programs? **Lynne** will be happy to have the staff prepare these reports and present them at the July meeting. **Lynne** closed by stating that she is and has been the Department Head for a number of years, and has been present at prior Rec Commission meetings. At any point, it would have made sense for someone to pick up the phone and call her.

Kevin Turner made a motion to adjourn; seconded by **Rene King**. Meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by **Trisha Otto**, Recreation Division.