

Town of Newburgh
Parks Board
Minutes April 7, 2016

Members Present:

Mary Ann Wilsbacher, Matt Timmel, Kevin Reine, Ron Keller, Wanda Kavanaugh,

Administrative Present:

Christy Powell, Town Manager; Attorney; Raymond Dudlo, Legal; Stacie Krieger, Council Liaison

Members Absent:

None

Citizens Present:

None

Minutes:

Mrs. Kavanaugh made a motion to approve the minutes from March 3, 2016. Mr. Reine seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

New Business:

Leanna Hughes, President, Newburgh Town Council -

The Personnel Committee made some changes regarding mowing duties. The Street Dept. does a great job, but it takes a lot of their time to mow approximately 30 acres. Personnel looked into contracted mowing duties and found that contracted labor would save the Town money and relieve the Street Department to be able to focus on Storm Water projects. Mrs. Hughes stated that there is no signed agreement in place. Personnel will see how this works for a month or two.

Bonds/Grants for Park - Mrs. Powell, Mrs. Krieger and Mrs. Hughes have met with Dawn Crowe, who worked on the town Master Planning, to start the process. It is very early in the process, but could be discussed further in mid-summer.

To allow Gerald and Don to work on other projects, the Cottages have been contracted out for cleaning. There is no signed agreement in place. The woman who is cleaning lives on Water Street and has done a great job. She is an independent contractor and carries her own insurance.

Anthony Moffat with TruGreen -

Mr. Moffat was here in February and it was decided to get inventory on Ash trees in the park and determine what, if any, Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) infestation is present. He is here with his findings. Wooded areas were not included in this inventory, but stand-alone trees were counted. AMAX field: zero ash trees. IHOP: zero ash trees. Kiwanis: zero ash trees. Old Lock & Dam: one ash tree. Newburgh Community Park: five ash trees. Veterans Park: zero ash trees. Trail: zero ash trees. There are a total of 6 Ash trees in Newburgh Parks. No sign of EAB infestation in any of 6 the trees. There is a tree at IHOP that looks like it has been affected by storm damage. It appears the tree has been blown over and is being supported by another tree. Treatment prices vary based on the circumference of the tree. He provided information regarding the pricing. Trees will need to be treated every 2 years for the next 10 to 12 years and will keep these well-established trees very healthy. Mr. Moffat provided information on the Adopt-an-Ash program. Mrs. Wilsbacher stated that after having to take down so many trees last fall,

she feels it's important to save what trees we have. Mrs. Wilsbacher moved to table this and study the information further and discuss it again.

Pool Staff Hiring Recommendations -

Mrs. Powell stated that we received 37 applications. 25 applicants will be hired this season. Mari Lyn Clark was unable to be a pool co-manager. Katie Stephens, who has all necessary certifications, and is in her 4th year at the pool, is recommended to be the co-manager to replace to Brittani Carrol. Kiersten Menke is back for her second year as co-manager. Mrs. Wilsbacher stated that with 2 pages of returned guards to consider, this speaks highly of the co-managers last year and speaks to 2015 having been a great season. She also stated that this shows other guards that there is an opportunity to advance with hard work and ongoing education. Mrs. Wilsbacher motioned to accept returning and new pool staff members as pool employees, assuming negative drug screens. Mrs. Kavanaugh seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

None

Petitions and Comments from Citizens Present:

None

REPORTS:

Town Council Liaison:

Mrs. Krieger said that Mr. Don Martin came before the council regarding giving tennis instruction at the Lou Dennis Community Park tennis courts. He's given lessons for several years. The council approved his use of the tennis courts.

Mrs. Wilsbacher asked if the orange fencing between Edgewater Grille and the condos could be replaced with actual fencing. Mrs. Powell stated that she is working on this presently. It is the Town's responsibility to replace it and the bank will reimburse the town for it. Mrs. Powell stated that it is already on the Street Department's list to address this spring.

Pool Report:

Swimwear - Mrs. Wilsbacher stated that Meg Dill was able to find discount swim wear for our pool staff and save us funds. This year men's trunks are \$25.95, last year they were \$39.00. This year ladies' tops are \$19.95, last year they were \$25.00, this year ladies' bottoms are \$19.95, last year they were \$25.00. Mrs. Dill will take care of getting sizing and placing the order. Mrs. Kavanaugh motioned to purchase the guard swimwear at these prices. Mrs. Wilsbacher seconded the motion. The motion carried.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE -

No report

RIVERTOWN TRAIL -

No report

RIVERTOWN TRAIL 5K - Mr. Reine stated that signs are up and everything is going well. Flyers have gone out. Next meeting is on April 20th at 6:00. Designs for the shirts and metals are complete. There were 59 participants and several corporate sponsors. Chief Sprinkle will place the speed detector on the edge of the trail to advertise the race. The proceeds from the Rivertown Trail Committee purchased the sign with profits from the 5K.

PARK AREA REPORTS

Lou Dennis: Mr. Keller reported that the trash containers are still there, there is water under the merry-go-round, several of the handicap swings are in. The one swing out by the merry-go-round is missing a seat. There is a dying tree on the far tree line that needs to be taken down for safety reasons. Still brush along the outfield. Several of the benches are in weathered and cracked condition. One of the picnic tables needs repairs on the legs. Mrs. Powell stated that they are working to repair/replace picnic tables. Mrs. Wilsbacher and Mrs. Powell met at the park to look at what painting the shelter house will entail. Andy Haas is still on track to do the painting. ALCOA volunteers will do the painting. Mrs. Wilsbacher stated that one side of the pool house has healthy bushes, the other side looks awful. She suggested removing the bushes in poor condition and using donated bushes from John Koressel and a few hastas from her garden and sprinkling seed mix to get some growth and color in the bed. Mrs. Wilsbacher asked if the pipe for watering the center island bed has been repaired. Mr. Keller stated it had not been completed yet. Mrs. Wilsbacher stated that this must be done as soon as possible. Mrs. Powell stated that the pool is Gerald's first priority is the pool itself, and then the other secondary areas of the park will follow. Mrs. Wilsbacher stated that the mud puddles need to be filled. The guard house was painted last season by the guards and it was a happy place! She suggested painting something fun above the flower bed on the outside of the pool house. Mr. Reine said that he spoke with Lou Dennis' daughter Paula, and she said that they are going to take care of all of the area under the sign. She will call her sisters and see if they can get out there ASAP. Mr. Keller stated that there are poles that are rotted fortress of fun support posts. Mr. Reine suggested robber post caps. There are a couple of vertical slats that could pose a threat to heads. Mrs. Powell stated that she will work on getting the slat issues fixed immediately.

Old Lock and Dam Park:

Mr. Timmel stated the walkway for the dock looks wonderful and congratulated the crew that completed that work. John Heck and the Street Department made those repairs and built that walkway by hand. Mrs. Powell said that Gerald is in the process of fixing the light on the flagpole. Mr. Timmel stated that there is a drain on the west end that is caving in. Mrs. Powell indicated that it will be jack-hammered out and replaced. Mrs. Powell read Gerald's report: Drinking fountain is hooked up, water is on, sprinklers are on, line is not leaking, restrooms are open, and plumber couldn't find a leak so the water is on.

Lockmaster Cottages:

Mrs. Powell said that contracted help, Carolyn Bentley, is cleaning the cottages now, laundry will be outsourced, local artist Josh Cornelius is getting together a group of local artists and photographers to display their work in the cottages, HNI will be working with us to provide welcome guest books which will include local merchants and sights, welcome gifts are provided by Carolyn Bentley. Mrs. Powell wants to raise the prices to \$195.00 per night, she wanted to charge more, but Mrs. Hughes requested that we keep the cost under \$200.00 per night. All money made is put back into the cottages and with the outsourcing of the cleaning and laundry there would certainly not be a profit made. Mrs. Powell also indicated that the Town is interested in looking further into providing WiFi at the cottages. Mrs. Wilsbacher mentioned that we allow pets in one of the cottages and will continue to keep a \$25/day pet fee added to the rental cost if the renter brings a pet. Mr. Timmel asked if there are peak times, like 4th of July weekend, which we can charge more for the cottages. Mrs. Krieger suggests taking the next month to find out what the rules are for rental fees, and what competitors are charging, and then gather again to discuss. Mr. Reine motioned to raise the per night cost to \$195.00 and not to change the pet fee. Mrs. Wilsbacher seconded the motion. Motion carried.

IHOP

Mrs. Kavanaugh stated that they've done a fabulous job cleaning up the park. The bushes and the trees look clean as a whistle. There are five dogwoods blooming that she thought were dead. There is still a bit of brush growing near the drive coming from French Island Trail. The restrooms were spotless and Mrs. Kavanaugh sang Don's praises. She was so proud of the Town after she finished her walk on the trail!

Discussion:

Matt Timmel made a motion to adjourn.
Mrs. Wilsbacher seconded and the motion carried.

Next Meeting will be May 5, 2016 at 6:00 pm.

Mary Ann Wilsbacher
Chair

Meg Dill
Recorder