



Meeting Notes

Grand Island Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (PRB)

Members: | David Pratt Chair, Judy Schmidt Past Chair, Michelle Lockett, Secretary
Matthew Pfeil, Ray Billica, Beverly Kinney, Sam Clarke, Joe Killian, Jason Ellis

Town Board Liaison: Tom Digati **Recreation Supervisor:** Joseph Menter

Recreation Supervisor Senior Services: Jen Menter **Parks Crew Chief:** Tom Cecere

Meeting Date and Time: Monday November 27, 2023

Location: Town Hall – Conference Room

In attendance: David Pratt, Judy Schmidt, Michelle Lockett, Matthew Pfeil, Ray Billica, Beverly Kinney, Sam Clarke, Joe Killian, Jason Ellis, Tom Digati, Joe Menter, Jen Menter, Tom Cecere

Absent: none

Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM

Approval of the October 2023 minutes: Ray motioned to approve with amendment and Sam second

Old Business

1. Parks & Recreation/Open Space Master Plan: Jim Sharpe & Judy Schmidt – Comprehensive Planning Board – 13 members with representative from each advisory board, Judy is the PRAB representative. This board is officially in charge of making the town's Comprehensive Master Plan happen. Every advisory board will have a master plan, that will look 20 years out. Economic Development has done their plan, much of which is focused on Ecotourism. A Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan was done in 1992, completed in combination with Conservation Advisory Board, it needs updating. A new committee will be established for updating this plan, it will have a total of 6 committee members, 2 from PRAB, 2 from CAB and 2 from EDAB. Jim Sharpe will act as facilitator. It will call on management staff from Parks and Rec departments. Ray and Beverly submitted an interest in participating in the new committee, they can both participate and attend when the other cannot. What land do we have and what can we do with it. Visionary statement, implementation stage with matrix of things to be accomplished. They will meet monthly on a regular schedule. Come summer there will be 2 – 6 public presentations. The committee name may change, however for now we will call it Recreational Master Planning Committee. Conservation would like to have a plan of their own. There is an opportunity for securing funds for a Natural Resource Index. The Comprehensive Planning Board feels the Open Space Plan should have a full line up of assessments and plans, OSI, NRI and OSP. It is important that the two plans are working in alignment. Index of land that GI owns, what is it doing now. The Open Space Index should be updated with input from the Parks & Rec board. CFAs open in April, May and June.
2. Open Space Committee: (Michelle Lockett & Sam Clarke) – We have approached Robbyn Drake about an interest in doing an NRI and Open Space Plan, she is interested. We have

asked her to submit a proposal. The committee is polishing the draft RFP, one for an NRI and one for an Open Space Plan. Michelle will include Sam on future communications with committee.

3. Town Center Update (Tom Digati and Judy Schmidt): The Town sent an extensive list of requirements to Barton & Loguidice on Nov. 15th and we have not heard back. Discussion on how to proceed with communications.
4. Demolition of Nike Base Buildings (Tom Digati, Tom Cecere & Jen Mentor): Ask grant writers if they can tell us the likelihood of getting a grant to take down the Nike Base buildings.
5. \$125K for Nike Base Improvements (Tom Digati): \$125K approval for new spec on grant from Dormitory Authority, Parks and Rec just needs to send them some updated costs. Tom Cecere sent his documents. Tom Cecere forwarded an email to Lynn & to Joe Menter on October 24th about the approval and needing the extra documents. The new pavilion would go over the parking lot, reduces the need for concrete. Engineering can figure out what the Pavillion can look like. Joe can get a quote for the cost.
6. PRAB review of proposed fees (Tom Cecere, Joe Menter & Jen Mentor): Changes include, the no show fee was raised to \$30 from \$25. Off Island sponsored camps was raised from \$150 to \$200. Added a mound and plate prep charge of \$10. Concession stand cost is to cover bathroom products and cost approximately \$700 for the summer. As of right now, the agreement states the town will not charge water and electric use at the Concession stand. If we included water and electric, the cost would approximately be \$365. The fee cost of \$25 a day is on par with the costs. The referee fee is set by the league and is standard. The Community Center rental went up \$10. \$60 rental fee for a couple hours is pretty much break even with staff time to set up and clean up. No objections to the proposed fee schedule.

New Business: None

Town Department Head Reports

- Town Board Liaison Report (Tom Digati): nothing additional
- Recreation Supervisor (Joe Menter) – Light up the Blvd. parade is this Saturday. Information is on the Chamber of Commerce. Recreation has a children’s game area and puts up road barricades. Parks does garbage bins.
- Senior Services (Jen Menter)- continuing to work with youth on projects. Submitting grants for drainage and another to Ralph Wilson. Getting requests from off Island residents to be members. Looking for volunteer help to distribute meals on Wheels meals. Thanksgiving dinner of over 85 people. Distributed, hats, gloves and scarves to people in need around the community.
- Parks Crew Chief (Tom Cecere): fixed up athletic fields, finished cutting grass, decorating for Light Up the Blvd. Finished winterizing all town buildings. They were awarded the \$500,000 matching grant for drainage and accessible walking paths at Veterans. The Town will match.

Adjourn at 9:11

Next Meeting: Monday, January 22, 2024, 7:00pm GI Town Hall