

# Town of Middlebury Parks and Recreation



**Betty Proulx, APRP**  
**Director**

**COMMISSIONERS**  
Ron Clark, Chairman  
Jack Worgan  
Ralph Barra  
Carolanne Browne  
Russell Tolles

**MIDDLEBURY PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday November 14, 2019**  
**Shepardson Community Center**  
**Room 1**

Present: Ron Clark, Chairman  
Betty Proulx, Director  
Ralph Barra  
Jack Worgan  
Carolanne Browne  
Russell Tolles

Absent:

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Ron Clark called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**APPROVE MINUTES**

**VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Carolanne Browne and seconded by Russell Tolles to **APPROVE** the October 10, 2019 minutes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**GREENWAY REPORT**

Betty reported that the fence along the greenway is covered under the Capital plan and it should be up with in the next week. The new fence will be much sturdier. She said the State added new signs for the crosswalks along the greenway. She also noted that all crosswalks will be repainted in the spring.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**BUDGET**

Jack Worgan said they are only a few months into the budget year and there are no real concerns. Betty said they need to make some adjustments within the repair account because money has been deducted from the wrong account. She reported that the VT Systems is up and running and will be paid from their accounts and won't need additional money from the town budget. The First Selectman had no problem with it. She said there is no contract since they've had the same vendor since 1998. Ralph noted there was discussion at last night's BOF meeting regarding the security of the system and whether all the data has been inputted in it. Betty said this system is in all military bases and cannot be hacked into and in 20 years they have never had an issue. This system can be accessed remotely and there is a significant improvement within the department because of it.

## **PERSONNEL**

None

## **BUILDING AND PARKS**

Ralph Barra had nothing new to report. Betty said the solar lights that needed to be replaced for the past 2 years were put in today. She said the parks are still open until the first snow fall, but all the bathrooms have been closed.

## **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

None

## **DIRECTORS REPORT**

Betty Proulx mentioned that outside the P&R office hall wall there is a possibility to put up a tv with a town calendar on it. She needs to look into the program that would be needed to integrate with VT systems. She said she spoke with Bill Stowell regarding changes to items that appear in their budget like the recreation self-sustaining account which is no longer self-sustaining. She will be adding a line item for IT to cover the cost of the new system. She handed out a report of what needs to be repaired on the town's playgrounds. She is meeting tomorrow with the company that the equipment is from. She said there is minimal repairs needed. Betty said there will be more cameras at Ledgewood and they are installing cameras at the playground as well. They also will be improving the cameras at the skate park area. The tree lighting is in 3 weeks and this year it will only have lights, no ornaments.

Betty reported that Southbury approached her regarding taking their girls travel basketball because they don't have enough participants. However, Middlebury has 13 girls so there is no room.

**VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Ralph Barra and seconded by Jack Worgan to **ACCEPT** the Directors Report.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Ron said the board needs to look into the skate park because it is not in good condition. He said there are a lot of concerns on drug usage there and feels it's unsafe. He said that he and Betty both agree that it should not be reopened until some guidelines are put into place. He said the park has been there for a while and is concerned about the over used areas and whether they are defective. He feels they need to set down some serious rules so it does not end up a liability. He said it should be closed for the time being and with Betty's guidance they can start to put things into place.

**VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Carolanne Browne and seconded by Ralph Barra to **CLOSE** the skate park until its deemed safe.

Ron also asked the board to think of things they can provide for teenagers that would be appealing to them.

**VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Jack Worgan and seconded by Carolanne Browne to **SET** next year's meeting schedule as the second Thursday of every month at 6:00PM, having no meeting in July and August and the first meeting held on January 9, 2020 at 6:00 PM

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**VOTED:** Unanimously on a motion by Ralph Barra and seconded by Russell Tolles to **ADJOURN** the meeting at 7:00 PM

cc: Town Clerk  
Commission Members  
Betty Proulx  
Bill Stowell