

Minutes of Special Meeting held on Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at 7:00 PM

Members of the Voluntown Recreation Commission:

Michael Kalwara	Melinda Bryan, Treasurer
Michael Magario	Belinda Wiese
Mark Simmons, Chairman	Kristen Pellinen
Jamie Anderson	Dean Wittwer, Secretary
Brian Kallio	

Absent: none

Guests: Tracey L. Hanson (First Selectman), Robert J. Thevenet (Selectman), Julie Zelinsky, John Guskowski - Tyche Planning [via Zoom]

Ascertain a Quorum

There were 9 of 9 present – served as a quorum.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm.

New Business

1. Brian Kallio has been appointed to the Recreation Commission by the Board of Selectmen to fill the vacancy left by Courtney Magario.
2. We had 7 proposals from the RFP process. There was concern that some of these companies are located outside of our area and may not understand the needs of a smaller town in Eastern Connecticut. A couple of the proposals were priced a lot higher than the rest and removed from consideration.

The three bids that we have decided to look further at were the lowest, but they were also recommended by John:

- Clough, Harbour and Associates (CHA): \$38,000
- FHI: \$40,500
- Barton & Loguidice (B&L): \$48,800

It was decided that we would like to interview the three companies listed with a small group. This meeting will be held on October 5 with Mike K., Mark and Tracey interviewing the companies along with John attending remotely. The other members of the Recreation Commission will also be in attendance but will not be part of the interview process.

3. Tracey suggested the establishment of the Gate Street Recreation Complex Planning Committee with at least 7 people from various groups in the community. The suggested groups are the Library Board of

Trustees, the Elderly Commission, the Board of Education, the Recreation Commission, Public Works, and Town Hall. Each of these groups are being asked to appoint one representative along with and a resident of one of the properties that is abutting the proposed complex.

4. We received a quote for the broken/missing playscape equipment. The equipment that we need will cost \$1282.20 but it is not clear if this includes shipping. Mike M. made a motion that we approve an amount not to exceed \$2000 for the playscape replacement equipment including shipping. Mike K. seconded. All were in favor.

General Discussion

Kristen had looked into cell phone backed cameras based on the discussion from the last meeting. The system that she is familiar with costs about \$200 annually but can also be done in monthly installments. We will discuss this further at the next meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Dean Wittwer.