TOWN OF ROWE
PARK COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING, APRIL 3, 2008

CALL TO ORDER: 6:42 P.M.

PRESENT RUSS JOLLY, HENRY DANDENEAU, EARL CARLOW, RANGER SEAN LOOMIS

ABSENT: none
AUDIENCE. none
MINUTES: Approved minutes of March 20, 2008
OLD BUSINESS:

- Town Meeting approved transfers of money for both Browning Bench Tool and tennis court repairs.
- Russ asked if anything had been done about opening the dams for waterflow, at the Selectman's meeting. Earl reported that the Selectmen said they would talk to Jim Taylor.

PARK RANGERS REPORT: (see attached)

- Maps for park should be done for meeting of April 17th
- Snowblower & snowmobile put away for the summer
- Fish to be delivered April 21st if ice is off the lake
- Date of the fishing derby is April 26th (Sean to call 4/13 if it is to be postponed)
- There will be tennis lessons for two weeks, twice a week—instructor Charles Gabriel.
- Park stickers are ready to go.
- Will clean up park when snow recedes
- Sean describes a program a few years ago where they began to identify trees and mount identification signs. Sean would like to have a naturalist, Walker Corby, come in and identify trees and ground cover. Henry suggested he do this with the summer recreation program and have the children introduced to the woods. Sean suggested it be done on a Saturday when people of all ages could be involved. Sean suggested getting signs with the tree names on one trail for identification. Sean was directed to get prices and continue with investigating the possible program.
- Sean mentioned that he and Carol Lively are planning an event for May 31st where they plant a garden full of pumpkins in an area above the riding rink. Although commissioners had some concerns about the success of plants thriving in that area, they gave permission to go ahead.
- Blue Sky won't have any locust bridge material for this year. Sean was told to check other sawyers for locust and also to find out what 8x8 pressure treated timbers would cost.
- Janet Cowie is willing to teach kayak lessons. Sean asked if the commissioners were interested in pursuing this. Would need a minimum of four people for lessons, half paid by the park and half paid by the person. Henry stated that he is interested in making sure that money is available in a line item before we vote on spending money for any program.
- Will go over park regulations at a later meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- Commissioners voted to give permission to have a retirement party for Joanne Weinstein (teacher at Rowe school) at the park on June 19th, from 4-7 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:58 pm

The next meeting is scheduled: April 17, 2008

Respectfully submitted:_____Date:_____

Approved:
Russell Jolly, Chair_____
Earl Carlow, Secretary_____ _____
Henry Dandeneau_____

PARK RANGER REPORT

April 3, 2008

I. Completed Activities

A. Trail map from Bruce Cowie
B. Snowmobile has been stored for the season along with the snow blower
C. At this time the fish derby is still on for April 26. I picked up some deer netting that I think will work to fence the fish in. There is still loads of ice on the lake and there will be a decision made weather to postpone it to a later date.
D. Charles Garbial is interested in Tennis Lessons. Schedule for the lessons will be 2 days a week (Monday and Wednesday) from 3:00-7:00 for 2 weeks. Total cost is 640.00$
E. Boundary signs (see park map).
F. Park stickers
   1. Ordered

II. On going Activities

A. Browning Bench
B. With the snow slowly reseeding, I will be starting the clean-up process of the parks common areas. I will also be going out on the trails and removing any major downed trees that fell during the winter months. And once the snow is completely gone I will head back out and do a thorough job of all debris.
C. Would like to get a naturalist in to do a tree ID on the Meadow Trail. Then we can get the tree ID tags from Voss Signs to go along with the Meadow Trail interpretive trail map that I am revising.
D. Rules and Regulations
   1. Revise

III. Budget Status see attached

IV. Miscellaneous

A. North West View
B. Talk w/ Blue Sky from Colrain Tree Service about the Locus logs and he said he wouldn't be able to get us any wood this year.
C. On Saturday May 31, there will be a plant swap and a rec program event at the riding rink. The rec program will be planting raised bed gardens that will be pre built, building blue bird houses, and planting a pumpkin patch that will supply the kids and the haunted house in the fall w/pumpkins. Carol Lively will be donating manure for the gardens and the pumpkin patch and I will be borrowing my moms tractor to till the pumpkin patch and to mix the manure with the soil.
D. I've been in contact w/Tom Ricardi (birds of prey) about learning about putting up owl houses in the park. We're still talking and hopefully we will be able to put up owl houses along the back sides of the lake, and up the side of the mountain. Along with owl houses we should think about putting up Wood Duck houses in the back cove and down at the Soule property along Pelham Brook at Mill Pond. Tom will be coming in the summer to do a bird show and part of the show he is going to release a rehabilitated owl into the park.
E. Kayak Lessons see attached quote from Zoar Outdoor