

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MARBLEHEAD  
OBSERVER CORPS

Recreation and Park Commission — Wednesday, November 20, 2019

LWVM Observer: Kay Rieper

The meeting was called to order at 7 pm. by Linda Rice Collins.

Board members Linda Rice Collins, Mathew Martin, and Gerald Tucker as well as Superintendent Peter James and Assistant Superintendent, Jaime Bloch were present. Chip Osborne and Derek Norcross were absent.

John Foster made a presentation about the deteriorating state of the clamshell sculpture on Riverhead Beach. The metal is failing, and the decorative tiles around it are covered with debris. The Board is aware of this, and has determined it would take \$5000 to repair it. The money isn't there now.

Bob Seltzer reported on the deteriorating state of the Seaside tennis courts, citing that the lights (as well as the lights on the basketball court) don't work. There are also cracks in the courts and damage to the fence. There is vandalism to the courts and the grandstand. A Vermont company will come give an estimate soon. Money is again an issue.

The Superintendent reported on field work, sodding to be done in the spring, and work on the infield. There is need for some repair to the Gatchell's sprinkler system. Also, the Light Department will look into the lights at the hockey rink.

The Assistant Superintendent reported on the programs, citing increased revenues over last year. Many programs are in the planning stage for spring and summer including hopefully a playground for 4 and 5 year-olds. She also mentioned the lack of a clerk and paying lifeguards from a revolving fund.

Last year each department was asked to decrease their budget 10%. Rec and Park did this, but most other departments didn't. Not sure what will happen for next year.

Finally, planning is beginning for a new pavilion at Chandler Hovey, possibly funded by a private donor in memory of a child.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

(The Board is without a clerk due to the budget cuts. No minutes have been posted since June. Not sure if there are any or not. Didn't seem to have any last night, and I couldn't tell if anyone was taking them. I'm also not sure if all the details are accurate, but the general ideas are there. Interesting about the high school tennis courts in the School Committee report. I thought Mr. Seltzer made some reference to the high school courts but not sure.)