

# Bantam Civic Association

P.O. Box 22 • Bantam, CT 06750 • Incorporated 1947

## Bantam Civic Association Minutes

Wednesday August 7 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Bantam Civic Association was called to order at 5:03 p.m. at The Bantam Borough Hall by President Paul Griffen.

**Members Present:** Jane Golding, Katie Lapointe, Dan “Boomer” Parsons, Terry Szymanski, Jeannie Sanford, Leslie Caron, John Caron, Val Caron, Jeff Porter, JJ Annable, Pete Dauten, Dick Sheldon, Wendy Westcott  
Public: Gary Zeller

**Previous Minutes:** July minutes and special meeting minutes were presented. Leslie: Regular Minutes remove the word “tractor” from discussion of quotes, quotes of new mower only, no tractor purchase per January 2024 Minutes. A Motion to accept the minutes as amended by Val, 2nd made by Pete. All in favor. Motion carried. Boomer: Special Meeting July 10 Minutes do not reflect what was said in meeting. Insurance requirement for use of ARPA funds was not a discussion. Jeannie, Leslie, Katie, agreed, no discussion on insurance. Dick does not recall discussion. Remove insurance from special minutes.

**Letter from Lauren Sage:** Val makes motion to read Lauren’s letter under correspondence, not separate item, according to regular meeting. Boomer Seconds. Motion passes.

**Treasurer's Report:** passed around. \$28,619.12 after deposits and expenses. Richard Grinvalsky donated full season amount \$200. to Farmer’s Market although he won’t be present for full season. Katie: Grimbalsky is Morris Organic farmer made donation in appreciation for market. Pete makes motion to accept Treasurer’s report, John seconds, motion carried.

### **Schedule Playground Equipment Work Party**

Paul: Schedule party end of October when field is closed, after cement is dried. Jeannie: Winters not what they were, leave park/playground open for year? Jeff: Parking lot floods. Paul: Field, playground, muddy, messy off season. Downtime allows us cut branches, etc when not in use.

### **Discuss Quotes on 2<sup>nd</sup> Mower ~~or~~ Tractor**

Terry brought five Scag mower quotes. Current mower 61” deck. Discussion of reliability, etc., Terry attests to running commercial machines every day for years c 1000 hrs per season. Jane 4-6 hours to mow entire field. 61” deck max size best for size of field. All models are in stock. Val: Looked at lower cost Hustler, X Marks etc. and noted we put 40+ hours on the John Deere last year. Paul other quotes? Leslie: has other quotes Val got months back. Pete:

discussion of reliability of commercial grade 40HP, why keep getting more quotes, need mower now. Boomer: bigger motor won't run as hard as smaller mower. Terry bigger deck not needed. All seem in agreement. Katie makes motion to purchase the 40HP 61 " deck Cheetah II commercial mower. Pete seconds, all vote in favor, motion carried.

### **Discuss annual meeting**

Paul: We talked about making nominations from the floor at the Annual Meeting in September, asks for comments. Pete: As of now new by-laws with November Annual Meeting date not passed yet. Val: reason for November being after park closed in October and new season starting, new people in. Members: No nominating committee needed, make nominations from floor at Annual meeting September 4 stands, using old by-laws.

### **Discuss amendments to By-Laws**

Discussion of voting in new by-laws. Jeff: The committee is getting together one more time to finalize new by-laws next week. Katie: special meeting to vote in bylaws before next meeting? Jeff: Make finalized By-laws can be agenda item, vote new by-laws which take effect the following month. Paul: Act of Incorporation must be changed first. By-laws cannot be contrary to Acts of Incorporation, which is registration through state of corporation- "first law" of corporation. By-laws secondary to Acts of Incorporation, Leslie: doesn't know of anything in by-laws about Acts of Incorporation. Jeff: finds copy of Acts of Incorporation, confirms nothing about Annual Meeting in Acts of Incorporation. Finalize by-laws by next meeting.

### **Public input and correspondence:**

Gary Zeller confirming Car Show Oct 26, compliments condition of field. Janie Pumpkin Festival has rain date reserved Oct 26. Change rain date to Oct 20. Paul: Rod and Gunn reserves two days in case of rain.

Paul: Passes letter by Peter Aziz, impressed by Kim and Lauren's Rotary presentation, donates \$1000. Lauren's resignation letter read, no longer a second signer for treasurer. Members acknowledge her great work at field and getting donations. Leslie offers to be second signer.

### **Any other business:**

Playground: Boomer, per previous minutes, safety material under swing. Dick: Did research, biggest liability is playscape. Need to check the condition of playscape for safety. Swings grass is acceptable. Specific mulch for playground is \$30 cubic yard from Superior. Discussion of obtaining material for under playground. Terry offers to get crew out to dig. Peter offers fabric. Discussion of Field: Pete rototilled but roots growing back. Val's York rake on mower to loosen up. Discussion of getting simple bases with anchors. Inexpensive worthwhile purchase so field can be used. Dick makes motion to purchase bases at a maximum expense of \$300. Pete seconds, all vote in favor, motion carried.

Pavilion base: JJ obtained 2 more estimates for total of 3 for pavilion drainage/repair. 2 Estimates, dig out, curtain drains, 3/4" process stone, pea stone on top. Third estimate is lowest cost, fabric down, gravel on top of what is there, not dig out, drainage further out, maybe gutters. Estimates \$14-16k. Boomer: water runs north to south through, to do right, tunnel under, gutters, water brought to daylight. Curtain drains? Gutters bring water down to fabric wrapped and drain out. Dick: Straighten building at same time? Boomer: it has survived these years. Pete: Fund mower this year, project for next year. Jeannie suggest getting quotes from local gutter guy John Dennis. Project tabled for next time. Paul: do when park is shut down

anyway. Boomer: what happened to Sponsor Board advertisement signs for ballfield that were made to be painted over? Would make park look like ballpark. Paul, Dick: rotted from years of storage, they were thrown out. Val: communication should be clear, decisions not made without members. Boomer: All work details all members should be notified in advance. Katie: Notified members of paint detail.

**Adjournment:**

6:04 Dick makes motion to adjourn. Pete seconds. Motion carried.

Wendy Westcott

08/07/2024

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