

RECEIVED

By Linda Amerighi at 9:29 am, Jan 14, 2024

SHARON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Draft until approved at the next regular meeting

A special meeting of the Sharon BOS was held on January 10, 2024 at 4:30PM at the Town Hall. Present were the three Selectmen, Jamie Casey, Donna Christensen, Matt Andrulis Mette, Michele Purdy, Ray & Marlena Aakjar, Ray Aakjar Sr., Frank Handelman, Scott Eldridge, Michael Levengood and the secretary.

First Selectman Flanagan called the meeting to order at 4:30 and stated that as there is no item on the agenda for public comment, if anyone present wants to speak with him, they may come into his office. The other Selectmen offered the same ability to speak with them.

The purpose of the meeting was for the Board to speak with a member of the Parks & Recreation Committee before they are re-appointed.

Mr. Flanagan thanked the member for their willingness to continue on the Committee as they are a valuable member but had some concerns. He appreciated the member being here today. Topics discussed:

Functions of the Park & Recreation Committee

The support for the Director and good working relationship

Issues facing the Committee:

What appears to be a transition into serving the older population

No readily available transportation to programs

Youth programs with few young people using programs – more using regional sports

With no Community Center, the Committee could reach out to other spaces available in town to use for programs

Ideas for programs for smaller groups of youngsters – the Committee is open to ideas

Getting information about programs and events open – how to reach out to the Community – BOS will help in any way they can

Ways to boost the vendor attendance to the Crafts Fair and possibly open spaces to others than artists and craft making individuals (this issue is for a bigger discussion and BOS can attend one of Parks & Recreation meetings to discuss)

The summer concert series – very popular

Concerns with Little Rascals Day Camp future

Mr. Flanagan commented that the Bos is re-activating the Long-Range Planning Committee and would like one member from Parks & Recreation's on the Committee. The new Committee would be looking at what the previous Committee recommended to be done and what has been done and what has not. Parks & Recreation does have a Five-Year Capital Plan in place.

The BOS suggested possibly conducting a survey on what services towns' people would like.

The BOS said it was nice seeing the whole Parks & Recreation Committee at this meeting and seeing the support of the member to possibly be re-appointed. It was stressed that the BOS is looking for a working relationship in the future with this Committee, being able to communicate openly with each other and with respect.

With nothing further, Mr. Flanagan made a motion to re-appoint Donna Christensen to the Parks & Recreation Committee with a term to November 18, 2025, seconded by Ms. Kearcher, with all in favor. The BOS stressed their appreciation of all volunteers and want to see programs continue and flourish.

With nothing further, Ms. Kearcher made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Brett, with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 5:13.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Pitcher, Town Secretary