

Old Orchard Beach Ballpark Commission

Meeting Minutes – May 21, 2012

I. Call to order

Chair Furtado called this regular meeting of the Old Orchard Beach Ballpark Commission at 6:45PM on May 21st, 2012 at the Ballpark Clubhouse.

II. Roll Call

Present are: Dana Furtado, Linda Mailhot, Mark Gustin, Jerome Plante, and Robin Dube. The following audience members were present: John Bird, Jerome Begert, and John & Pam Gallo. Absent are Kris Fish and Lucien Huot.

III. Acceptance of Minutes from May 2nd

Chair Furtado asked if everyone received a copy of the minutes. Yes. Mr. Plante, made a motion to accept. It was seconded by Mrs. Dube. All were in favor.

IV. General Manager Update

Chair Furtado said it is unfortunate that Ms. DeRice isn't here because the budget meeting is in 2 days and we have some loose ends to tie up so it would have been nice to have her here. Mr. Plante asked when the budget meeting was - Wednesday. We should go to that Wednesday meeting. Mrs. Mailhot checked the agenda on the town website and it says Thursday at 7PM for the budget workshop. Chair Furtado said I think with Ms. DeRice leaving there will be a transitional period where we won't have a GM. Should we have someone on an interim basis until we get a replacement, per Mr. Plante. Chair Furtado said I think we will have to assign someone from the commission to do that. Mrs. Dube said it will be kind of hard to do as she answers to the town manager and he's the one that tells her what to do and what not do. Mr. Plante said we can do some homework in the meantime. Mr. Plante asked if Ms. DeRice has all the schedule up to date? Mrs. Dube said yes it is supposed to be on the website. Mr. Plante asked what is our most immediate concern. Someone needs to have a key and answer calls, etc. Mrs. Mailhot said Ms. DeRice is leaving June 1st. We should have someone in acting capacity after that. Chair Furtado said my opinion is that there are so many tasks that she did that we may have to split up the tasks within the commissioners. Mr. Plante said should we set up a special meeting with Jen to go over some things before she leaves. Chair Furtado said yes we should. Mr. Gustin said I don't think there are many dates open that we have to worry about having someone here to answer calls.

Chair Furtado said Ms. DeRice sent us some emails late this afternoon with some materials to go over. She sent financial reports from Catherine. The proposed budget was worked on by Catherine and the Town Manager. By end of week she

hopes to compile a total list of projects to present. The Gallos and Al Lappin helped clean out behind the outfield fence. Talked to Kenny Blow about a dumpster and them donating dumpster and they will keep scrap metal. Also, she put together a list of projects for the United Way Day and went over those. Mrs. Dube said we need to find volunteers as it sounds like there are a lot of things to do. Chair Furtado said the United Way comes with a significant number of people. We should organize these projects based on priorities. Mr. Gustin said they all need to be done. Audience member John Gallo said removing the metal around the fence is a considerable task as there are fence posts with concrete and it will take some brute force to get rid of that stuff. Al Lappin worked all day and cleared an area so you can drive a vehicle all the way around the perimeter of the fence. Mr. Gustin suggested clearing behind the outfield fence be moved to the bottom of the priority list as it is behind the fence and people can't see it. Mrs. Mailhot agreed. Mrs. Dube said it is town property and thinks that public works should be able to provide some help. Audience member Pam Gallo said if you get people behind there to call the cops and they will call the town it will get cleaned. Audience member Jerome Begert said public works does work for the town and it is public property. Chair Furtado said those guys are working 10-12 hour days as they are putting in the sewer, doing beach clean-up, pothole repairs, etc. and it probably won't happen. Mr. Plante said he will check with Kenny Blow to see if he will donate a loader and a body to assist. Chair Furtado asked the Gallos how will that affect you with fireworks. John Gallo said Al Lappin cleaned out enough that it won't effect the fireworks. Mrs. Dube said does doing anything with that pond involve DEP at all. Mr. Gustin said he thinks that is a retention pond that was man-made to catch the water. Chair Furtado said he wasn't sure. Mrs. Dube said when they did the community garden DEP fined them as Pierre put in a little bridge or something. Audience member Jerome Begert said perhaps making sure that the dirt and oil doesn't go into the garden was the concern. Chair Furtado introduced the proposal for operating expenses for the FY 11, 12, 13 budget. Chair Furtado said one of his biggest concerns is that now that we don't have concessions, thinks the \$21,000 number is not reality and needs to be lowered. Audience member John Gallo said if you have the concessions stand open during town events you get 25% of that revenue and the harder the commission and others work to get more than 500 people in the stands you get \$1 back for each seat over that 500 figure. Mrs. Mailhot asked if the payroll numbers on here are for concessions during Raging Tide games not as I'm not sure how this is structured. Not sure, per Chair Furtado. Audience member John Gallo said isn't there some \$50,000 in some fund that exists from revenue brought in. Audience member John Gallo said after our games and prep for during our games, the town will not have to pay for that so hopefully they don't have figures there for that. Mr. Plante asked John Gallo if there were going to be beer sales. Jimmy the Greek is operating beer sales for us, per Mr. Gallo. Mr. Plante asked if the beer services will be available to us for non-Tide events. Yes, if you want it, per Mr. Gallo. Mrs. Mailhot asked why there is such an increase in payroll. Mr. Gustin said those numbers were previously under the recreation department and now they are transferring those costs to us. Chair Furtado asked why is there a

line item for \$6,000 to Blow Brothers for the dumpsters when they have never charged us. Mrs. Dube said she was at a budget meeting for the recreation department and Jason Webber said that Ms. DeRice was here all of the time and not at the rec. dept and perhaps that is why they have all of this proposed salary on here. Chair Furtado said these numbers just don't make sense. Audience member Pam Gallo said the cleaning of the bathrooms during the Raging Tide games should be their responsibility. John Gallo thinks that it is perfectly acceptable for them to clean the bathrooms that they use and not the others. Chair Furtado said the bathrooms for the public should be cleaned by the Tide because the people using them are going to your games. In this proposed budget there is a number to pay for cleaning those bathrooms but there shouldn't be as that is an in-kind service. Audience member John Gallo agrees. Mrs. Dube said the new town manager thinks that it should be run by the town, which it really should be but these numbers don't make sense.

V. Individual Commissioner Updates

Mr. Gustin – The field is open.

Mrs. Mailhot - Needs list of projects and improvements necessary to raise funds for them and help fill the gap.

Mrs. Dube – Nothing.

Mr. Plante – He will meet with Kenny Blow tomorrow. Do we have a job description for the general manager? Chair Furtado said the town hall probably has one. I think we need a meeting before Ms. DeRice leaves.

Mrs. Dube asked what is the latest on the cribbing out there. Chair Furtado said we didn't agree to pay them a dollar so we shouldn't pay anything. We were told by Jack it was going to be free. Mrs. Dube said if he's been paid once there might be an obligation to continue paying. We aren't sure if he has been paid anything.

VI. Old Business

Ms. DeRice was going to work on getting the same rate from the marketing company re: the charity game. Mrs. Mailhot said there was a toilet missing and I donated one but not sure if it has been installed.

VII. New Business

Mrs. Mailhot said I think that we should try to meet with Ms. DeRice before Thursday's budget meeting to find out any background on these budget figures. Audience member Jerome Begert said he thinks the town manager should be involved in that meeting if possible. Mrs. Mailhot said I think that we need to get a plan together for what is going to happen when Ms. DeRice leaves on 6/1.

VIII. Good & Welfare

Audience member Jerome Begert said I suggest you repeat how you are going to take over certain expenses. Audience member John Gallo said during the 2 months that the Tide plays there should not be as much work as the ballpark does not need to be involved with games, teams, concessions, merchandising, this building, etc. But, to make sure that we have done what we are supposed to do and that is getting done properly. Audience member Jerome Begert said in a previous meeting you all discussed privately raising some money for a sign but it should be higher than the sign there now and there are some trees there and when they grow you won't be able to see the sign. Audience member John Gallo said there is a question mark about a \$1200 sign. The sign company is donating half of the money and then the ballpark was going to come up with the other half. Audience member John Gallo said the opening night game is close for fireworks and beer to be able to happen. His son in law Jason is throwing out first pitch representing owners and he would like Chair Furtado to throw out first pitch representing the ballpark. We want the commission to be out on the field and to be recognized. Mr. Gallo further stated that Ms. DeRice took the opportunity to have some scoreboard signs put up but the signs are so eclectic and they take your vision away from the score. They shouldn't all run together like that. There should be some space between them. Our contract with the town ends 7/31 but games don't end until after the last playoff game which is sometime in August. He doesn't believe the current contract has a provision for what happens then. He would like to put something in place that says they can use the facility after those dates such as an addendum where town has control of the concessions and we play the games so he doesn't have to put in a special event request. Mr. Plante said to John Gallo to draft an addendum and we can look at it at the next meeting. Mr. Gallo said you guys need to get the passwords and website information from Ms. DeRice.

IX. Adjournment

Mr. Plante made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Mr. Gustin.

Minutes submitted by: Linda Mailhot, Secretary