

The Old Orchard Beach Ballpark Commission
Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2018
Old Orchard Beach High School Library

Attendees: Chair Jerome Plante, Commissioners John Gallo, Kris Fish, Victor Gould Jr, Bob Rings (via skype), Robin Dayton, Melissa Clark, Ballpark Manager Guy Fontaine, and Field Manager Jim Doran.
Public Attendees: Raina Fish and Jerome Begert.

Call to Order: Chairman Plante opened the meeting at 6:30 pm. All above were present except Commissioner Dayton. The meeting was brought to order and the first order of business, election of officers, was completed. Commissioner Dayton then arrived and protested the meeting being started without her so the meeting was again called to order and restarted at 6:40pm. The election of officers was held again.

1. Election of Commission Officers: The commission elected new officers with separate votes for each position. The meeting continued under the leadership of the new officers.
 - a. Chair, John Gallo. 6 in favor, 1 opposed (Dayton) Commissioner Dayton felt strongly that Commissioner Gallo would not be supportive enough of the Surge baseball team. Commissioner Dayton spoke in length about this issue.
 - b. Vice Chair, Kris Fish. 6 in favor, 1 opposed (Dayton) Commissioner Dayton also nominated herself for this position. There was no second for her nomination so Commissioner Fish was unopposed.
 - c. Secretary, Melissa Clark. All in favor.
2. Meeting Minutes: Motion to accept the December 7, 2017 minutes was made by Commissioner Gould and seconded by Vice Chair Fish. The motion passed. It was asked of the new secretary that the minutes be provided to the commission at least ten days before each meeting so members would have time to review them.
3. Field Use Requests and Manager's Report. It was suggested and agreed to combine these two items in the future.
 - a. Ballpark Manager Fontaine had several items to review. He had sent a letter to the MPA asking why no high school playoff or championship games were played at the ballpark. The answer was they just don't want to move at this time. Guy is getting a lot of calls for field use and is populating the schedule as dates are booked. He also said he had a request from a gentleman in Massachusetts seeking to book some tournaments here in August. More details will be provided at the next meeting. Guy also presented a form that is available on the website to request field time.

He discussed the resolution of the vandalism at the ballpark. This is still a work in progress with some suggested solutions being the kids clean up their graffiti and do some cleaning and grounds work to work off their debt. Guy would also like to see them come to a meeting to apologize to the commission.

Guy reports the tractor is being put to good use and working out very well clearing snow. He is working with the town to ensure accessibility to all buildings in case of an emergency.

There was discussion about the Farmer's Market and the Concerts in the Park dates. There is talk about possibly adding more dates and possibly splitting dates with the downtown location. He is waiting for the town to finalize everything.

There was no financial report to present. Guy has not received the information from the town. There is nothing new to present regarding the Surge contract. To date the contract and payment have not been received. Both are due by January 31, 2018.

4. The Field Manager's report was presented by Jim Doran. Jim is concerned that we may have too much scheduled on the field. He hopes they can keep up with all the maintenance and keep the field in great condition. Some extra fertilizer and water will help. Jim also wants the commission to look at the stipends paid to the field crew to make sure they are commensurate with all the hours they work.
5. Sean Getchell, the Surge GM, was included in the meeting to improve communications with the Surge. Sean reports that the contract should be signed and ready to go. He said the schedule should be out by mid-February. He assured the commission the pocket schedules, posters and merchandise have already been ordered. The All Star Game and Home Run Derby will be in Old Orchard Beach this year.

The council suggested a kids' camp. Sean assured us that there will be at least one as well as at least one Rec Camp day. Sean reports there are 4 to 5 interns lined up for the season. He states housing is still at St. Joseph's College. Ballpark Manager Fontaine questioned this and Sean said all the issues with housing last year were due to the previous GM who is gone so there will not be any issues with the team leaving early this season.

The question of the ballpark concession providing meals to the players after games was discussed. Guy says things have to change as his staff had to stay late just to feed the players. It was suggested to look into meals that could be made ahead and left in the locker rooms so the employees could leave on time. This issue will be further discussed.

6. New Business:
 - a. Commission Norms and/or Expectations: Chairman Gallo motioned, second by Commissioner Clark to incorporate these into our meetings. The motion passed 6

to 1 (Dayton). Chairman Gallo motioned, second by Vice Chair Fish to accept the norms as written pending updates. There will be further discussion in how to incorporate these norms at our next meeting

- b. Quarterly report due to the Town Council: Commissioner Dayton reminded the Commission that the Council was promised a list of every event we had in 2017. Guy is compiling this list. John is working with Guy to finish the forms. There was discussion on who would work with whom to complete this task. Chairman Gallo will take all suggestions under consideration. As Chairman Gallo will be away, Vice Chair Fish will present this to the Town Council on February 20th.
 - c. Scheduling and Facebook page improvements: Commissioner Dayton wants improved access to the schedule of events is listed on our website. Guy has updated the website but some of the changes Commissioner Dayton wants cannot be done. There are drop down boxes and other ways to view the events scheduled at the ballpark. Guy states our website is the norm. Robyn wants to make sure all the events state whether they are free or what the cost is.
7. Good and Welfare: The Commission heard from Jerome Begert. He is concerned and wanted to make the commission aware of a possible change in how the town handles the Ballpark's finances from a dedicated revenue account to a misc. revenue account. Mr. Begert feels this would be a bad idea and wants the Commission to stay on top of this. The Commission thanked Mr. Begert for his information and concerns.
8. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 12, 2018 at 6:30pm at the Old Orchard Beach High School Library.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm by unanimous decision.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa Clark
Secretary