

# Hazel Grove Planning Committee

## MINUTES

AUGUST 3, 2011

7:30 PM

FIRST FLOOR MEETING ROOM  
TOWN HALL, GROTON MA

<b>TYPE OF MEETING</b>	Committee Meeting
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Adam Burnett, Tim Svarczkopf, Patti Modzelewski, Jean Armstrong, Linda McCrossan, Laura Menard, John Ott, Gineane Haberlin, Meredith Scarlet, Anna Elliot, Laurie Smigelski (Park Commission liaison)
<b>NOTE TAKER</b>	Jean Armstrong

### Agenda topics

#### BUILDING INSPECTION JULY

29

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Laurie gave the committee a summary of the meeting at the fairgrounds on Friday 7/29 with Tom Delaney (public works) Mike Kenney (building inspector) and Val Prest (structural engineer). In two weeks Val will give the Park Commission a summary of his findings. During the meeting he said the main issues with the Exhibition hall are two cracked beams. The wings on the side of the barn are preventing the walls from pulling away / racking. It shouldn't go another winter in the current state. He recommended that there not be more than 50 pounds of weight per square foot in the meantime.</p> <p>Regarding the tower / starting gate that is not currently used they thought that the roof was in good condition and could be removed and then build up the tower. There is some good wood and character in the tower. Discussed putting up a temporary fence to keep people from climbing it.</p>
	<p>The committee then discussed what its role was in the decision making process on next steps. Agreed that our role is to let the Park Commission know what we think the role of the Exhibition Hall will play in the future vision of Hazel Grove. We all felt that it would play some role in the future vision.</p>

#### SPENCER AND GREENFIELD

FAIRS

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Jean gave an update on her efforts to contact the Spencer and Greenfield Fair Officers. Provided information sheet so the committee could go the fair web sites and see firsthand what they have. Plan is to meet with officers during the fair if it can be arranged. Otherwise we will meet after the fairs.</p> <p>Jean asked if anyone on the committee wanted to go to either fair to let her know so she could coordinate the meeting with the fair officers.</p>
	<p>Laura said she could talk to the organizers of the Lancaster / Bolton fair and see what information she can gather from them.</p>

#### TIMELINE

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Discussed timeline for meeting June 2012 deliverable on 1 , 5 and 10 year plan to Park Commission
<b>SEPT – OCT</b>	Brainstorming – decide on what we want to accomplish. Identify subcommittees and their goals.
<b>NOV – DEC</b>	Subcommittees form plans
<b>JAN – FEB</b>	Subcommittees do the work
<b>MAR</b>	Draft of plan
<b>APR</b>	Vote on plan
<b>MAY</b>	Any last minute updates; votes
<b>JUNE</b>	Present to the Park Commission

CURRENT AND FUTURE USE

<b>CURRENT USE</b>	Committee agreed we needed to make sure we understand fully the current use of the facility. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RDC – Gineane to ask RDC if they can come to the Sept meeting and provide information on the following: what is their annual budget, in the last 10 years dollars spent on maintenance, status of the track, what are their goals for improvement/ maintenance, what do they maintain.</li> <li>• GPC – Laura to gather information in upcoming months as Pony Club reconvenes in Sept. Laura has the documentation on GPC budget and \$ spent.</li> <li>• Other use – ask people who currently use the property how they use it. Look at emails sent in. Park survey.</li> <li>• Wildlife / natural resources</li> </ul>	
<b>POTENTIAL USE</b>	Identify / brainstorm potential uses Grotonfest – have a booth; ask people how they think the park should be used. Recreational fields – what are the criteria for a good site for a recreational field.	
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>	<b>DEADLINE</b>
Get information about a booth at GrotonFest	Tim/ Laura	8/17
Lacrosse / Soccer field criteria	Patti	8/17
RDC contact for Sept meeting	Gineane	8/17

FAIRGROUND HISTORY

<b>HISTORY</b>	John shared his research into the fairgrounds history. After discussing the current and potential use, John talked about the historic use of the property for agricultural fairs. The exhibition hall was under framed and under built to keep the cost low since it was intended for light use a couple days out of the year. John read through annual reports and met with Groton residents to gather his information. Town documents mention buildings being moved, built and torn down – takes some time to get the details on the building and location mentioned in the report. John mentioned all the families in town that had been involved in the property at some time. He mentioned that non Groton residents were part of the club in the past.  John will send out his document to the committee members.
----------------	---

CONTACTS FROM OTHER GROUPS FOR POTENTIAL USES

<b>OUTREACH</b>	What is the agricultural committee interest in the property? – Meredith Tim is researching Groton Local Stacey Chilcoat is a good contact – NRWA and education classes, her husband is a good resource regarding preservation
-----------------	---

VOTES ON MINUTES

6/29/11	Tim moved to waive the reading of the minutes, seconded by Laura. No discussion all in favor of accepting the meeting minutes.
7/20/11	Tim moved to waive the reading of the minutes, seconded by John. No discussion all in favor of accepting the meeting minutes.

NEXT MEETING

<b>AUGUST MEETINGS</b>	The next meeting is on 8/17. A number of people will be away but the group agreed to meet even if there are not enough people to vote on anything in order to keep the momentum going.
------------------------	--