

# APPROVED COPY

## Groton Park Commission Meeting Minutes

8/31/11

Attendance: Jon Strauss, Jeff Ohringer, David Howes, Laurie Smigelski  
The quorum was met and the meeting came to order 7:00 pm at the Legion Hall

Minutes were not read. There were no bills presents to sign because it was not clear that anyone present was to bring them.

1. Exhibition Hall discussion. Tom Delaney DPW was present to discuss Val Prest's, Groton Engineering, LLC, report regarding the condition of the hall. We discussed the options for the hall before snowfall. One of which is adding structural braces to prevent deterioration during the winter. The greater discussion was dismantling for possible later restoration. This would affect the currently used stables on either side of the hall. A question brought up was it possible to leave the hall sidewalls intact for the stalls while removing the roof and beams. Tom will contact Val Prest and discuss this option and steps needed for bracing. This would give the Hazel Grove Planning Committee their time to finish their plan for the future and allow the stables to be used without interruption. Jon stressed the safety concern for work to be done on the hall before winter as Val reported. Tom said that there is a fall town meeting warrant article for money to dismantle the hall. Later Jon felt that CPC should be approached for off cycle money from unallocated reserves as a potential funding option. Laurie will contact Kathy Miller from CPC to request to be put on the agenda for the 9/9/11 Meeting. Present for the discussion: Gineane Haberlin HGPC, Rick Mason and Don Billingsley Jr. from Groton Riding and Driving Club.
2. Cow Pond old well, nothing has changed.
3. The football field well is working but needs to be cleaned.
4. Temporary lighting at Cow Pond will be located on the poles along the parking lot. Groton Electric has put up one light and a test light. These lights will be on a timer.
5. The irrigation pump at Cutler Field is not working. To date there is an undetermined reason for it not working even though it has been looked at. There is no urgency now due to the end of the season but money will be set aside for its repair later.
6. There is plenty of poison ivy around the track at Hazel Grove. This will need to be killed before the repair of the broken fence can begin. John Smigelski will give a quote to the Park Commission for this. Signs will need to be posted to notify of herbicide spraying.
7. There will be a new administrative assistant at our next meeting.
8. There needs to be active involvement from all of the sports groups interested in pursuing more fields. Without this involvement the need for more fields is unsure.

9. Millstone project: There is an interest to speak with the land owner at our regular meeting to discuss options of purchase.
10. It was suggested that the CPC money for the Millstone project be rolled back to unallocated reserves. This discussion will be continued next meeting and a letter to the CPC written notifying our decision.
11. There will be further discussion to consider 2 playing fields at a portion of the DPW land.
12. Jon Strauss presented ideas for FY '12 Goals and Objectives. These ideas were discussed. There will need to be further discussion on implementation.
13. Tom said that Richard Chilcoat is interested in looking at the Exhibition hall's structure and advising with the structure. Richard works for the National Park Service dealing with historic barns and restoration. Tom will arrange the meeting.

Next meeting 9/14/11, 7:00 PM Legion Hall      Meet adjourned 8:31 PM  
Laurie Smigelski

## FY '12 Goals & Objectives

1. Introduction
2. Vendor Relations
  - Bid Process in the fall that is reviewed by everyone
  - Evaluations during the year
3. Special Projects
  - Updates every meeting
  - Assign project managers
4. Parks Meetings and SOP
  - Twice/Month meetings April-November?
  - Official only if voted on at a Parks meeting
  - Monthly budget review
  - Special project fund list
  - Standard quarterly meetings with all the youth sports groups
  - Standard business should be conducted within the Parks meeting
5. Parks and Groton
  - Increase the budget for Parks
  - Meeting with Town Officials should be conducted wherever possible by multiple members of Parks.
  - We should have revolving officers, chairman, vice-chairman, etc..