

APPROVED COPY

Parks Commission Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2012 at Legion Hall

ATTENDEES: Don Black, Dave Howes, Jeff Ohringer, Laurie Smigelski, Jon Strauss

GUESTS: Jonathan Foster, Paul Gingras, Bob Johnson, David Fitzpatrick, Tom Fitzpatrick

MEETING OPENED: Mr. Black opened the meeting at 7:01pm.

READING OF THE MINUTES: Minutes for the February 8th meeting were read. They were unanimously approved. Ms. Babcock had also brought forth that minutes from March 9th, April 13th, and June 22nd all of 2011 had never been approved. These minutes were all unanimously approved.

BILLS SIGNED:

- Waste Management \$ 100.51
- GELD – Cow Pond – FB Field \$ 6.75
- GELD – Cow Pond – FB Stand tmp \$ 6.75
- GELD – Cow Pond – BB Field \$ 9.10
- GELD – Cow Pond Ball Fld Pkg Lot \$ 12.00
- GELD – Cow Pond Brook Soccer \$ 7.31
- GELD – Stonebridge Fields \$ 6.75
- GELD – Cutler Field \$ 6.75
- GELD – Wheeler Park \$ 6.75
- GELD – Basketball Court(park) \$ 6.75
- GELD – 5 Commons - Flagpoles \$ 32.50
- GELD – Sawyer Common \$ 6.50
- GELD – Chicopee Row at Sawtell \$ 6.75

CORRESPONDENCE:

- The Riding and Driving Club sent a copy of their Certificate of Liability Insurance.
- Triangle Portable Service sent a seasonal order form.

- The Groton Planning Board sent a Public Hearing notice to the abutters of the former Groton Inn property regarding a Site Plan Review for a new restaurant. We received it because Minuteman Common abuts this property.
- The Commissioners of the Groton Trust Funds sent their annual Lecture Fund application information. Some funding for the Fourth of July fireworks comes from this fund.
- An invitation to the Master Plan meeting for updating the Open Space and Recreation Plan was received. Caroline Edwards, a consultant, wants to meet with Parks and Conservation on Tuesday, March 27th at 7pm.

FIELD USE REQUESTS:

- Men's Pickup Baseball – Jonathan Strauss requested a permit for Wednesday evenings, 6:30-8:00 between June 6th and August 29th at the Town Field. The commissioners unanimously approved them.
- The Fourth of July fireworks will be at the Town Field on Friday, July 6th this year.

REPORTS:

- Ryan Hamerla was unable to make it to this meeting.
- David Fitzpatrick from Groton's Boy Scout Troop 3 presented his plan for his Eagle Project. He would like to establish a Gold Star memorial at Sawyer Common to honor all Groton soldiers who have died serving in combat. The names would be inscribed on the memorial and David would like to complete the project by Veterans Day 2012.
- Soccer League was represented by Jonathan Foster, VP
 - Mr. Foster asked about the painting of the fields. He would like to hire someone to do it. Much discussion ensued as to how often and how much it might cost. Also what other leagues do to get their fields painted. Mr. Howes will find out how much it would cost to have the lines painted once per week.
 - Mr. Foster wanted to know if the Parks Commission would pay for seeding. The Parks Commission cannot pay for it.
 - Mr. Foster also enquired about the possibility of lights for the field. It gets very dark at the end of the season and lights would help extend practice and child safety. There was discussion about whether or not GELD might be able to supply and install the safety sports lights.

- Mr. Foster asked if there was any way to get pavement to the bottom of the hill and to improve the flow of traffic in the parking lot. In regards to the pavement, Parks is low on the list for pavement requests. Parking is allowed across the street near the DPW garage.
- Mr. Strauss asked Mr. Foster to e-mail Mr. Black with the amount it cost them to maintain the soccer fields last year.
- Baseball League was represented by Paul Gingras
 - He requested field use permits for Cutler Field, Town Field, and Cow Pond fields 1,2,3, and 4 from April through August. All were unanimously approved by the commissioners.
 - Mr. Gingras wanted to know if level parking is possible. Mr. Delaney of the DPW is planning on using the grader in order to help with this situation.
 - The new field (Field of Dreams) is ready and will be played on this year.

Town Field - Mr. Gingras wanted to know if dugouts were going to be made. Mr. Black has filed a Form of Intent with the Land Use department and has not received any acknowledgement yet. He will check with Mr. Kinney of the Building Department for that.
 - Mr. Gingras reported that baseball spent about \$10,000 last year.
 - Mr. Gingras expressed concern that Cutler Field needs to be improved and put in baseball playing condition.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Spring Site Walk is scheduled for Saturday, March 31st. Everyone should meet at Cow Pond fields at 9am.
- Mr. Howes is not running again for the Parks Commission. No one else is running. This opens up a seat on the Commission.
- Ms. Smigelski spoke to Dan Wolfe of Ross Associates regarding the questionable border at Hazel Grove. There is a 110 foot discrepancy between the Assessor's maps and a plan that the Lagasse family had recorded in 1980. The Town of Groton and the Lagasse Family Trust should work cooperatively to clarify any boundary discrepancies. Ms. Babcock will research the deed for the Hazel Grove property.
- Request for bids have been sent to landscapers. The deadline for the bids is March 31st.
- The number of Porta-potties needed this year is eight.
- Evan Holofcener ice rink cleanup will take place on Saturday, March 24th at 9am.

ADJOURN/NEXT MEETING: Mr. Black adjourned the meeting at 9:14pm. The next meeting will be held at the Legion Hall on Wednesday, April 11th at 7:00pm.

Respectively Submitted,

Becky Babcock

Administrative Assistant

Parks Commission