

Town of Groton

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Park Commissioners

Gineane Haberlin, Chair
Kenneth Bushnell
Robert Flynn
Matthew Frary

Meeting Minutes

Date: March 7, 2016
Time: 7 p.m.
Location: Legion Hall, 75 Hollis St., Groton, MA
Commissioners present: Gineane Haberlin, Robert Flynn, Kenneth Bushnell, Matthew Frary
Others: Beth Carney, Jeff Ohringer, Bob Mullins, Theodore (T.J.) Rivet
Handouts: Agenda, draft minutes February 1, 2016

Gineane Haberlin called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Pending invoices were reviewed and approved.

Field Use Permits

Beth Carney spoke up for the Challenger soccer camp field use permit for week in August. Challenger camp needs the Cow Pond space so that the lightning protection on the field there will be available for the camp's use. Youth Soccer is aware and supportive of the Challenger camp week.

Gineane Haberlin moved to approve the Challenger soccer camp field use permit for the week in August as written, pending receipt of a Certificate of Insurance. Matthew Frary seconded and the motion carried 4:0.

Commissioners approved the zip line repair for Christine Hanson playground. Parts will be ordered from O'Brien & Sons as previously quoted (less than \$300) and Kenneth Bushnell volunteered to make the repair once the parts arrived.

Commissioners reviewed the youth soccer and youth lacrosse field use permit requests. The only busy day between soccer and lacrosse at Cow Pond is Sunday and, even then, the youth groups have proposed a schedule that does not conflict. Youth soccer's certificate of insurance is already on file with the Park Commission.

Gineane Haberlin moved to approve the youth soccer field use permit request for Cow Pond as written. Kenneth Bushnell seconded and the motion carried 4:0.

Bob Mullins spoke up for youth lacrosse and he offered to coordinate with the ultimate Frisbee requesters so that both field use requests for Woitowicz Field – youth lacrosse and ultimate Frisbee – could be approved. Park Commissioners thanked Bob Mullins for this flexibility that enables more users to enjoy Park Commission properties.

Gineane Haberlin moved to approve the youth lacrosse field use permit request for Cow Pond as written pending submission of a certificate of insurance. Kenneth Bushnell seconded and the motion carried 4:0.

Gineane Haberlin moved to approve the youth lacrosse field use permit request for Woitowicz as written pending submission of a certificate of insurance. Kenneth Bushnell seconded and the motion carried 4:0.

Gineane Haberlin moved to approve the youth lacrosse field use permit request for Cutler as written pending submission of a certificate of insurance. Kenneth Bushnell seconded and the motion carried 4:0.

T.J. Rivett was consulted about how youth baseball's trash service presently works. Gineane Haberlin explained that the Park Commission picked up the cost of youth soccer trash removal for Cow Pond in the fall and the Commissioners want to extend that service to other use groups on their fields. The group discussed adding trash removal for Cow Pond and Town Field. T.J. Rivett explained that past practice has been to have youth baseball place a 10 yard container in the spring to be used by baseball and lacrosse. In the fall when youth baseball concludes, the trash removal payments are taken over by youth football. The 10 yard container is emptied about once per month. Group discussed whether a smaller container emptied every other week or more frequently would work. Fran Stanley will collect further quotes from Mitrano. T.J. Rivett is willing to have its presently contracted

container removed if the Park Commission is assuming the service. Fran Stanley will inquire about single stream recycling from the large container trash service providers.

The Commissioners agreed that the Town Field area near the baseball dugouts needs a Waste Not 96 gallon trash and recycling service. It would be added for the entire summer. This trash and recycling service would be used by the new users of the refurbished Town Field basketball court. And, the group observed that the current service located up the hill at the Christine Hanson playground is frequently overwhelmed when the Town Field area is busy.

Group discussed that the Park Commission does not presently have the budget to line the fields, but youth groups would welcome the help when it can be offered. For example, Jeff Ohringer estimated that youth soccer spends about \$3,000 per year on lining.

Jeff Ohringer asked about monitored cameras in order to cut down on joy rides and those who try to break into the concession stand. Gineane Haberlin said that cameras monitored by the Police Department are expensive. However, Gineane Haberlin invited any proposals to address the problem as the Park Commission would certainly review them.

Bob Mullins asked about reseeding the fields. Presently, the Park Commission does not have plans to reseed the fields in the spring because that is when the pre-emergent weed killers are applied to the fields. Commissioners invited youth lacrosse to store nets in the Town Field shed. Jeff Ohringer said that he sometimes re-seeds small areas of the Cow Pond soccer fields that have poor grass coverage.

The Commissioners may walk the fields on Saturday, March 26th at 9 am to see if they are dry enough to be opened. The initial gather location for the field walk will be the Cow Pond parking lot.

Youth baseball's certificate of insurance is already on file with the Park Commission.

Gineane Haberlin moved to approve the youth baseball field use permits for Town Field large and small as written. Kenneth Bushnell seconded and the motion carried 4:0.

Gineane Haberlin moved to approve the youth baseball use of Cow Pond as written. Kenneth Bushnell seconded and the motion carried 4:0.

Gineane Haberlin moved to approve the youth baseball use of Cutler Field as requested. Kenneth Bushnell seconded and the motion carried 4:0.

Gineane Haberlin moved to approve the freshman high school baseball use of Town Field as written. Kenneth Bushnell seconded and the motion carried 4:0.

Gineane Haberlin moved to approve the Groton Community School picnic at Town Field on both the requested rain date and preferred date, pending submission of a certificate of insurance. Matthew Frary seconded and the motion carried 3:0 (Robert Flynn abstained).

Bob Mullins will line the lacrosse field at Cutler in a way that does not prevent simultaneous use of the front part of Cutler for younger youth baseball participants playing coach pitch or T ball. T.J. Rivett will coordinate about baseball use of Town Field in August to see if conflicts with the Library events on August 10th and August 24th can be avoided. T.J. Rivett noted that the two April Library events could proceed without further coordination or clarification.

Gineane Haberlin moved to approve the Groton Public Library events at Town Field on April 9 and April 12 as written. Matthew Frary seconded and the motion carried 4:0.

Gineane Haberlin moved to approve the Groton Public Library events at Town Field on August 10 and 24 pending baseball inquiry about potential field use conflict. Matthew Frary seconded and the motion carried 4:0.

Gineane Haberlin informed the group that John Smigelski has fabricated new Minuteman Common post rail holders. Some of the post rail holders had broken and some were missing. The original rail hangers are handmade. There is no exact modern equivalent to be purchased in hardware stores. John Smigelski recalled that his father made the

last set of post rail holders used on Minuteman Common. The cost is expected to be around \$150 and the invoice will be submitted at a future meeting.

Draft minutes were reviewed.

Gineane Haberlin moved to approve the February 1, 2016 draft minutes with the one change to clarify that the quote for O'Brien & Sons includes wood chips whereas other estimates do not. Kenneth Bushnell seconded and motion carried 3:0 (Matthew Frary abstained).

Commissioners discussed the status of the construction of dugout roofs at Town Field. It is up to the Eagle Scout candidate who originally expressed interest in the job to follow up with the Park Commission if he is interested in taking on this project.

The Park Commissioners reviewed the wording for the warrant article regarding the Cutler Field playground. Operating by consensus, the Park Commissioners agreed to submit the warrant article to the Spring Town Meeting.

Gineane Haberlin moved to approve the Groton Dunstable Community Ed ultimate Frisbee field use request for five dates at Woitowicz field pending submission of a certificate of insurance. Kenneth Bushnell seconded and the motion carried 4:0.

Cutler Field Playground Proposals

Proposals received	Total Cost
1. O'Brien (Landscape Structures)	\$40,472
2. Marturano Recreation Co. (Game Time)	\$34,979.26
3. Site Specifics	\$34,037.36
4. ChildScapes	\$39,800
5. Premier Park & Play	\$39,967
6. Ultiplay – option 1	\$40,437
7. Ultiplay – option 2	\$40,432

The Commissioners reviewed the submitted proposals. After some discussion, the O'Brien proposal to install Landscape Structures equipment seemed to garner the most support.

Gineane Haberlin moved that pending a Spring Town Meeting successful vote on the Park Commission's Cutler Field warrant article that O'Brien & Sons would be the chosen contractor to install a new Cutler Field playground as per its submitted quote for a total cost of \$40,472. Matthew Frary seconded and the motion carried 3:0 (Robert Flynn abstained).

Commissioners designated Kenneth Bushnell to purchase infield mix materials on behalf of the Park Commission. The Park Commissioners are copacetic with scheduling the first application of fertilizer at Turf Unlimited's discretion. However, the second round of fertilization may need to wait until the start of the new fiscal year on July 1, 2016.

Commissioners do not think that anything needs to change about irrigation. The contractor is installing the rest of the rain sensors at Groton's irrigated fields (Woitowicz and Cutler). The start-up for irrigation may be needed as soon as mid-April.

Gineane Haberlin moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm. Kenneth Bushnell seconded and the motion carried 4:0.

Next meeting: Monday, April 4, 2016 at 7 pm.

Notes by Fran Stanley