

Town of Groton

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Park Commissioners

Kenneth Bushnell, Chair
Evan Boucher
Robert Flynn
James Gaffney
Timothy Siok

Meeting Minutes

Date: May 8, 2018
Time: 7 p.m.
Location: Town Hall First Floor – Meeting Room
Commissioners Present: Kenneth Bushnell, James Gaffney, Robert Flynn
Commissioners Absent: Evan Boucher, Tim Siok
Others present: Anna Eliot

Chair Kenny Bushnell called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

Pending invoices

Pending invoices were reviewed and signed.

Kenneth Bushnell moved to approve and pay pending invoices. James Gaffney seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.

Field Use Update –

Kenny Bushnell stated, although the opening of the fields was delayed due to weather, the playing on the fields is underway and going well. There were 21 field use permits issued for the Spring 2018 season. All fields are in good shape and all fields are in use.

Robert Flynn stated he spoke with the GD Lacrosse organization about taking care of the trash on the fields properly.

Field Use Applications

The Commission reviewed the field use applications submitted for approval:

1. Fireworks Celebrations Application - Don Black
2. Casual Cricket Games

Fireworks Celebration discussion - Commissioners stated, the fireworks celebration is an annual Groton event; the application/request has not changed.

Robert Flynn made a motion to approve the Fireworks Celebration field use permit for July 9, 2018 during the hours of 5 pm to 10 pm as requested and as written and as permitted by the field use permit. Kenny Bushnell seconded. Motion carried 3 to 0.

Casual Cricket Games discussion – Commissioners stated there was no need for a field permit application, however if the cricket games were casual/pick up games. The use of Cow Pond, especially on the weekends, would be problematic. The Commission will allow the use of Cutler Field for Sunday morning casual cricket games.

Capital Improvement Projects: Chair Kenny Bushnell continued the Capital Improvements Projects discussion until the June meeting due to not having all board members present at this meeting.

Flags

Don Black contacted the Park Commission stating he would like to volunteer as a care taker of the Town Flags. The Commission discussed the locations of the Flags that are under the jurisdiction of the Park Commission. The Commission questioned, if the flag located at Longley Rd and Blossom Rd were a neighborhood flag or a Park Commission flag. The Commission decided who would be best to take care of the flags that the town fields and not on have the sport organizations manage. Putting the responsible on the sports organizations hasn't always worked out.

Kenny Bushnell made a motion to appoint Don Black as the Town of Groton Flag Caretaker to report to the Park Commission twice a year on replacements and inventory of flags. James Gaffney seconded. Motioned carried 3 to 0.

Admin. Updates

- Triangles deliveries made on April 12 and 13.
- Waste Not – reactivated
- Turf Unlimited has been scheduled. The first application has been done. Turf Unlimited has been asked to adhere to the schedule, so there is no issue with payment.
- Legion Hall Flags were replaced after receiving a complaint about condition of flags
- HDC will revisit site visit for baseball shed with GD Baseball in the fall. John Kelly of GD Baseball has been notified
- The No Dogs request, questions and Town policy about “Dogs on Town Fields” has been resolved. The policy the Town uses is the same policy the Park Commission refers to for the Town Fields.
- The lights at the Basket Ball Court were reported to be staying on all night. Tim MacGregor, Town Electrician addressed the issue.
- The Garden Club donated 3 shrubs and 1 tree to the Christine Hanson Memorial Playground

The Town of Groton Open Space and Recreation Plan- OSRP

The Open Space and Rec Plan kick-off meeting is Thursday, May 10, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

The Conservation Commission is hosting the kick-off meeting, presenting the timeline and mission of the project.

The OSRP is requesting a Park Commissioner to sit on the advisory committee.

The Commission did not have current member available to attend the kick-off meeting, so Maureen, Admin. Asst., will attend, along with Anna Eliot, who is running unopposed for Park Commissioner.

After Town elections, when new board is in place, a discussion will occur regarding the Park Commission representatives for OSRP and CPC.

Minutes from March 6, 2018 will be approved at next meeting.

Chair Kenny Bushnell acknowledged and thanked Robert Flynn for his service on the Park Commission.

Next meeting:

Tuesday, June 5, 2018

*Kenneth Bushnell moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm. James Gaffney seconded.
Motion carried 3:0.*

Minutes by Maureen Adema