

TOWN OF GROTON

Park Commission
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450
Tel: 978-732-1893



Park Commissioners

Tim Siok, Chair
Donald Black
Kenneth Bushnell
Anna Eliot
Gail Chalmers

Meeting Minutes

Date: May 5, 2020
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting
Commissioners Present: Tim Siok, Donald Black, Anna Eliot, Kenneth Bushnell, Gail Chalmers
Others Present: John Giger, The Groton Channel and Kara Cruikshank, Admin. Asst.

7:10 P.M Tim Siok called the meeting to order.

Discuss and Vote on Closure of the Fields

Tim Siok said our first matter of business is to discuss field and parks closures. Mr. Siok stated he would like to continue with closure of the fields and parks until the Governor speaks on May 18th. Commissioner Anna Eliot stated she would like to organize a program where kids can have a structured sports program. She would like to get the kids re-integrated. Chair Siok agreed it would be nice to re-integrate the kids, but we would need a plan in place in an order where it would be safe for everyone.

Commissioner Chalmers asked if all of the leagues have canceled their sports? Commissioner Bushnell stated that baseball is cancelled through mid- June, he is unsure about soccer etc. Mr. Bushnell agrees with having the parks and fields closed right now. John Giger, Select Board Member, stated that the Board of Health could help the Park Commission open everything up successfully. Porta potties will have to be cleaned after each use. Mr. Siok believes there are a lot of unanswered questions about how to keep play structures sanitized as well. All porta potties and trash are removed from the fields at this time. Ms. Eliot believes that the Park Commission should go along with what is deemed by the state for opening the parks and fields and have guidelines. She would like to see user groups come up with organized sports for the children. The Park Commissioners decided to hold another meeting on May 19th at 7PM. They would like to reconvene after the new state protocols on May 18th and follow the guidelines of the state.

Mr. Siok made a motion to keep parks and spring sports closed until at least May 19th. Mr. Bushnell seconded the motion. The vote carried 4-1.

Discuss and Approve Memorial Parks and Common Policy

Park Commissioners reviewed and approved the Memorial Parks and Common Policy stated by the Select Board.

Mr. Siok made a motion to approve the Memorial Parks and Common Policy as stated by the Select Board. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. Roll Call: Siok-aye; Eliot-aye; Black-aye; Chalmers-aye; Bushnell-aye.

Park Commission Invoices

April 2020 Park Commission invoices amounted to \$196.11.

Anna Eliot made a motion to approve the invoices for last month. Ken Bushnell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Other Business

Kenny Bushnell asked if we could fertilize the fields with our Capital account. John Giger stated if we would like to purchase the fertilizer, we would have to go to Mark, the Town Manager to get approval for the town to occur that expense. Tim Siok suggested we should apply the first application of fertilizer and turn on irrigation, the irrigation is essential. Anna asked if we fertilize all the fields in town? Kenny confirmed that we do. Chair Siok stated he will ask for permission from the Town Manager to fertilize the fields.

Approval of Minutes for February 4, 2020

Anna made a motion to approve minutes from February 4, 2020. Commissioner Donald Black seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously 5-0.

Tim Siok advised the group he is going to be putting in his papers and finishing up this term as Chair. Commissioners wished him well and they are sorry to see him leave.

The meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.

**Respectfully submitted by Kara Cruikshank, Land Use Administrative Assistant
Date approved: June 2, 2020**