

**TOWN OF GROTON**

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



**Park Commissioners**

Donald Black, Chair  
Anna Eliot, Vice Chair  
Gail Chalmers  
Kenneth Bushnell

## Meeting Minutes

**Date:** July 7, 2020  
**Time:** 7:00 PM  
**Location:** Zoom Virtual Meeting  
**Commissioners Present:** Donald Black, Anna Eliot, Gail Chalmers  
**Commissioners Absent:** Kenny Bushnell  
**Others Present:** Gregg Yanchenco, Chris Davey, Rob Foley, The Groton Channel, Kara Cruikshank- Admin. Asst. And other interested parties.

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**7:00 P.M** Chairman Donald Black called the meeting to order.

### Signs.

Chair Black presented a sign that could be posted outside at the Parks properties. This sign was approved by Town Counsel and the state legislature. Mr. Black explained these signs should be posted to fields, basketball courts and playgrounds for the users to use at their own risk.

**Ms. Eliot made a motion to approve the making of 2 dozen signs for posting at the Parks properties for access. Ms. Chalmers seconded the motion.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

### Opening Playgrounds Discussion

Mr. Black explained other surrounding towns have opened their playgrounds so he would be open to discussion with the other commissioners. Ms. Chalmers asked if there are any temporary, "use at your own risk" signs that are up at the parks. Mr. Black explained there are large green signs that are up at the facilities stating, please use the facilities carefully.

**Ms. Eliot made a motion to open the playgrounds and to post the approved signs to be printed. Ms. Chalmers seconded the motion. Roll call: Eliot-aye; Black-aye; Chalmers-aye.**

### Cow Pond Well

There are two wells at Cow Pond. One is a shallow well and one is a deep well. With the current drought, Cow Pond Brook is low so the well is unable to water properly or the well will go dry. Fran Stanley reviewed minutes from 2016 and 2017, when this was a previous concern. It was noted, the deep well had the capacity to supply water for the entire playing field. In doing so, we would have to create a bilateral

pipe line going from one well to the other and the pump house. When we would need the deep-well, we could. Then when we did not need to use the deep-well, we could disconnect and go back to the one that feeds the soccer fields. Mr. Black would like to proceed to see what it will cost to get a bilateral pipe.

**The commissioners gave Mr. Black permission to proceed with receiving estimates.**

### **Flagpole Lights**

A few years ago, there was an Eagle Scout project to put up solar lighting on the flag poles. The electric lights have stayed functioning during this time and The Park Commission has been paying the GELD bill all along. The 5 flag poles in the center of town have been reactivated and the solar lights have been removed.

### **CPC Out of Cycle Application**

Greg Yanchenco and Chris Davey were both present to join the discussion in regards to the CPC Application. Ms. Eliot explained, based on the recommendation from the CPC members, that she ask the CPC administrative assistant, Sammie Kul and Park Commission administrative assistant, Kara Cruikshank, to get a project application form together. This application is to apply for funds to be voted on at the fall town meeting. This is for a feasibility study and the design of a sports facility at Cow Pond. Ms. Eliot explained there was a lot of storm damage on the structures there and there's an ongoing issue with porta potties. Ms. Eliot explained this is an out of cycle application. She would like to submit this application at the CPA meeting. Ms. Eliot would like permission from the Park Commissioners to work with Mr. Greg Yanchenco on the application. Ms. Eliot would also like to work with the user groups to see what kind of storage is in demand and determine what their needs are. Mr. Davey explained that soccer uses the pavilion for multiple things. He believes the maintenance shed needs to be replaced. Lighting is important because of EEE and COVID-19 and bathrooms are a concern because of maintenance and cleanliness.

Ms. Eliot would like the application to be complete for the Town fall meeting. The winter will give them time to get the construction drawn up and then it will be ready for the spring Mr. Yanchenco explained this facility will serve as one but with multiple functions. It will not be heated and the bathroom will hopefully be designed to be steam cleaned. There will be running water for the snack shack. He would like a flag pole on the facility with lighting.

**Mr. Black made a motion to allow Ms. Eliot to proceed with filling out the short form out of cycle CPA application so she can submit it to the CPA July meeting. Mr. Black will be the applicant. Ms. Chalmers seconded the motion. Roll call: Black-aye; Eliot-aye; Chalmers-aye**

### **Waste-Not Containers**

Mr. Black explained the Park Commission has not received any bills for the trash cans down at the fields, playgrounds and basketball courts, yet they are being emptied. Admin assistant, Kara Cruikshank agreed to follow up with waste-not, to inquire about the bill.

**Bruce Bottamini**

Mr. Bottamini moved to Groton a year ago from Vermont. He has volunteered his time to the Cow Pond baseball complex and Town Field baseball field. The fields have not been in finer shape since Bruce has taken care of the fields. Mr. Black would like to thank him by writing a letter and expressing thanks and gratitude and have the Commissioners sign it next meeting.

Ms. Eliot agreed and stated there are many groups that volunteer and they should all be recognized. Commissioners all agreed and will think of a way to thank all the volunteers.

**Park Commissioner Updates**

**Mr. Black-** The well at Woitowicz Field is fixed and the pump has been replaced. The system is working normally.

At Minuteman common, the Eagle Scout project has provided new railings and brackets. They are beginning the Main Street side and they wish for completion by the fall.

**Ms. Chalmers-** In West Groton at Carol Wheeler Common, there is a hole that abuts the common. Mr. Black will speak with Bob Garside, the Groton building official, to look at the hole to see if it is a hazard.

**Approve Invoices**

GELD invoice totaling in **\$642.78**

Moore lumber (4 by 4's)- **\$319.08**

Invoices totaling in **\$961.86**

**June 2, 2020 Minutes**

**Ms. Eliot moved to approve the minutes from June 2, 2020. Ms. Chalmers seconded the motion. Roll call: Black-aye; Chalmers-aye; Eliot- aye.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.

**Respectfully submitted by Kara Cruikshank, Land Use Administrative Assistant  
Date approved: October 6, 2020**