

**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:** February 2, 2021  
**Time:** 5:00 PM  
**Location:** Zoom Virtual Meeting  
**Commissioners Present:** Donald Black, Anna Eliot and Gail Chalmers  
**Others Present:** Paul Funch, Kara Cruikshank- Administrative Assistant, The Groton Channel

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**5:03 P.M** Chairman Donald Black called the meeting to order.

**Responsibility of Porta Potties-**

Chairman Black would like to consider making it incumbent upon our user groups to provide their own porta potties. Ms. Eliot would like to think about this. This can be taken up for further discussion at the next meeting.

**Fertilization-**

The Park Commissioners agreed upon getting bids from reputable companies for the cost of fertilization. The bids should include all the playing fields and for one application on the commons.

**Tree Trimming at the Old Burying Ground- Discussion-** The Old Burying Ground is under the Park Commission domain. There are a lot of trim limbs that go down over the course of the year. Mr. Black explained they need to address the low-lying limbs, get them cleaned up. To clean this area up, Mr. George Brackett can bring in the equipment to do the work on the weekend. Mr. Black said it would cost about \$2,300 per visit, to clean up the Cemetery. This would consist of two visits. Ms. Chalmers asked if they should check with any other companies, as well. Mr. Black said Mr. Brackett is a tree expert, and he is careful.

**Letter of Support-** Mr. Paul Funch was present, virtually. Mr. Funch had requested a Letter of Support, from the Park Commission, for the Marion Stoddart Riverwalk Project. Mr. Funch explained he will be submitting a grant application on behalf of the Trails Committee, to the Mass Trails Recreational Trails Program to request funding for the design phase of the multi-year project. Mr. Funch presented a summary of the project to the Commissioners. The presentation stated that it will be a linear riverside park, with a fully accessible multi-use trail for all levels of mobility. The trail is estimated at 1 mile long with bridges, several rest areas with benches, an observation deck, historical and ecological signage, handicap and standard parking areas at both ends of the trails. The project would be expected to have a grand opening in late spring of 2024.

**Mr. Black made a motion to render a letter of support to the Mass Trails Recreational Trails Program. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. Roll Call: Chalmers-aye; Black- aye; Eliot-aye. The vote carried unanimously.**

**CPC Application-** The CPC Application was up for discussion at the Select Board meeting the night before. The Select Board members voted to continue the discussion at the meeting the following week. Select Board members, Mr. Giger and Mr. Reilly voted in favor of the application. Ms. Manugian and Ms. Pine do not support the application. Mr. Black spoke with Ms. Pine about her concerns with the application. He shared her concerns with the other Commissioners. Mr. Black wondered if there are some things that should be changed on the application. The Commissioners would like to be a part of the discussion at the next Select Board meeting to go over their concerns about the application.

**Tree Removal at Waitowitz Field-** The tree down at Waitowitz will be removed once the snow melts and if there is still frost on the ground so the ground won't get damaged.

**Field Use Applications-**

- Cub Scouts Pack 12- February 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:00AM – 12:00 PM.  
Town Field and Gazebo- Awards Ceremony

**Ms. Eliot made a motion to approve the Field Use Permit submitted by the Cub Scouts Pack 12 with the provision that they comply with the state protocol for COVID safety measures. Ms. Chalmers seconded the motion. Roll Call: Black-aye; Eliot- aye; Chalmers- aye. The vote carried unanimously.**

**Commissioner Updates-**

Anna Eliot- The CPC had 14 original applications, now there are 12 applications. There is a great deal of support for all of the applications, therefore there will be competition to be ranked also to be considered for Town Meeting vote.

**Approval of Invoices-**

January 2021 GELD- \$535.56

**Ms. Eliot made a motion to approve the GELD bill in the amount of \$535.56. Ms. Chalmers seconded the motion. Roll call: Eliot- aye; Chalmers-aye; Black- aye. The vote carried unanimously.**

**Approval of Minutes-**

Minutes from December 1, 2020 meeting.

**Ms. Eliot made a motion to approve the minutes from December 1, 2020. Ms. Chalmers seconded the motion. Roll Call: Eliot- aye; Chalmers- aye; Black-aye. The vote carried unanimously.**

***Adjourned at 6:14 PM***

Respectfully submitted by Kara Cruikshank, Land Use Administrative Assistant  
Date approved: April 6, 2021