

TOWN OF GROTON

Park Commission
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450
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Park Commissioners

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

Meeting Minutes

Date: March 2, 2021
Time: 5:00 PM
Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting
Commissioners Present: Donald Black, Anna Eliot and Gail Chalmers
Others Present: Cormac Bordes, Jeff Larson, The Groton Channel, and Kara Cruikshank- Administrative Assistant

5:04 P.M Chairman Donald Black called the meeting to order.

Cow Pond Well Waiver from GBOH

Board of Health Agent, Ira Grossman, gave Mr. Black a notice stating in order to put in a well where the Park Commissioners would like, a Public Hearing will be held and they will need a waiver. The Board of Health would like to have the well setback 50 feet which will infringe on the playing surface. The Commissioners would like to avoid having a well head above ground level, in the middle of the playing field. Mr. Black asked the Commissioners if they would like to move forward with the well and Public Hearing. They would like to have the proposed well closer to the one that is currently there, which is closer to the edge of the parking lot.

Trash Policy and Porta a Potties

All the playing fields in the past have had dumpsters and trash removal service. Last year with COVID, it was changed to a bring-in, take- out policy at Town Field for trash. This policy worked out well. Mr. Jeff Larsen and Mr. Cormac Bordes were present, virtually, for the meeting. Mr. Larsen expressed his concerns about this policy, stating they did not budget for trash removal. Ms. Eliot explained how the Park Commission budget was cut. The Commissioners decided to postpone any vote or motion until Commissioner Bushnell was present to help make any decisions.

Mr. Black made a motion to postpone the trash and porta potty policy discussion until the April meeting, when Commissioner Bushnell is present. Ms. Chalmers seconded the motion.

Parking at Cow Pond Field

If the CPC Application goes through at Town Meeting, Matt Waterman is going to be the engineer for the feasibility study. There are currently 85 safe parking places at Cow Pond Brook Fields. Mr. Black questioned the Commissioners about how they go about safe parking for the spring season. Ms. Eliot doesn't think there is safe parking at the fields and would like to speak and work with the Town's Public Safety, before taking action. Ms. Eliot would like to schedule a meeting with Groton's Public Safety at Cow Pond.

Ms. Eliot made a motion to do a site walk meeting with Tom Delaney, Mike Luth, Mark Haddad and Steele McCurdy to determine the level of safety down at Cow Pond Brook area with the Park Commissioners. Ms. Chalmers seconded the motion. Roll call: Black-aye, Chalmers- aye, Eliot- aye. The vote carried unanimously.

Field Use Applications-

- GDYBL- April 1, 2021 through October 31, 2021 at 9:00AM – 12:00 PM.
All Cow Pond Baseball Fields and Town Field (large and small diamonds)
Monday – Sunday- All Day

Mr. Black made a motion to approve the Field Use Permit submitted by the GDYBL. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. Roll Call: Black-aye; Eliot- aye; Chalmers- aye. The vote carried unanimously.

- North East Baseball- 4/11, 4/18, 4/25, 5/2, 5/9, 6/6 10 AM- 2 PM
Cow Pond Field

Mr. Black made a motion to approve North East Baseball's Field Use Permit Application and to be compliant with the state guidelines. Ms. Eliot seconded the motion. Roll Call: Chalmers-aye; Eliot-aye; Black-aye. The vote carried unanimously.

- GDYLL - March 2021- June 25, 2021
Monday, Wednesday, Friday 5:30 PM- 7:30 PM
Cutler Field
- GDYLL- March 2021- June 25, 2021
Monday- Friday 5:00PM- 7:00 PM
Saturday and Sunday – All Day
Cow Pond Field (LAX field and Old Football Field)
- GDYLL- March 201- June 25, 2021
U11 Tuesday/Thursday 4:00 PM-5:30 PM
Woitowicz Field

Mr. Black made a motion to approve Groton Dunstable Youth Lacrosse League Field Use Applications. Ms. Chalmers seconded the motion. Member Eliot voted in favor of the Field Use at Cutler and Woitowicz Fields. Ms. Eliot approved the Use at Cow Pond Brook Fields only Monday through Friday. This is only because of the safety at the parking lots on the weekends at the field. Roll Call: Black-aye; Chalmers- aye; Eliot- no. The vote carried 2-1.

Commissioner Updates-

Mr. Black explained to the Commissioners that there was a request that came in for use at Cow Pond Field on June 13th, all day. This is for an out of town, girl's lacrosse tournament by Christine Haberman. There would be 48 teams included in the tournament.

Ms. Eliot moved to deny the request of use of the facilities which are not set up for tournaments. Ms. Chalmers seconded the motion. Roll Call- Eliot- aye; Black-aye; Chalmers-aye. The vote is unanimous to deny the request.

Tarbell playground is under the Park's domain. The Park Commission will be responsible for mowing of the area where the playground lies. The DPW will mow.

Approval of Invoices-

GELD- \$479.78

Dawson Landscaping- \$326.55

Waste Not- \$1,080.00

Ms. Eliot made a motion to approve the GELD invoice in the amount of \$479.78. Ms. Chalmers seconded the motion. Roll call: Eliot- aye; Chalmers-aye; Black- aye. The vote carried unanimously.

Ms. Eliot made a motion to approve the Dawson Landscaping bill in the amount of \$326.55. Ms. Chalmers seconded the motion. Roll call: Eliot-aye; Chalmers-aye; Black-aye. The vote carried unanimously.

Ms. Eliot made a motion to approve the individual invoices totaled in the amount of \$1,080.00, to be signed by Mr. Black upon individual receipt, to the town accountant. Ms. Chalmers seconded the motion. Roll call: Eliot-aye; Chalmers-aye; Black-aye. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes-

Minutes from January 5, 2021 meeting.

Ms. Eliot made a motion to approve the minutes from January 5, 2021. Ms. Chalmers seconded the motion. Roll Call: Eliot- aye; Chalmers- aye; Black-aye. The vote carried unanimously.

Mr. Black made a motion to post pone the trash and porta potty policy discussion until the April meeting, when Commissioner Bushnell is present. Ms. Chalmers seconded the motion.

If the fields are open before the April 6th meeting, the Commissioners agreed to provide sanitary facilities and trash removal available for the user groups at Cutler, Woitowicz Fields, Cow Pond Cutler and Town Field. This will be at the Park Commission's own expense.

Time Change March 14th daylight savings.

Mr. Black made a motion for the new meeting time to start at 7 PM. Ms. Chalmers seconded the motion. Roll call: Chalmers-aye; Black-aye; and Eliot-aye. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Eliot made a motion to Adjourn at 6:29 PM. Ms. Chalmers seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Kara Cruikshank, Land Use Administrative Assistant Date approved: 6/1/2021