

TOWN OF GROTON

Park Commission
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450
Tel: 978-732-1893
dmain@grotonma.gov



Park Commissioners

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

Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, May 4, 2021
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting
Commissioners Present: Donald Black, Anna Eliot and Gail Chalmers
Others Present: Kara Cruikshank- Administrative Assistant
Absent: Kenneth Bushnell

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

1. Budget update

D. Black updated the Commission that there is \$39,150.91 remaining in the budget, the total amount is excluding the transfer of the funded \$20,000.00 for the installation of the Cow Pond well.

2. CPC Update from Town Meeting

D. Black stated that the CPC article that was submitted by the Park Commission has been approved and the Commission can expect to receive the funds in July.

3. GBOH Waiver Hearing Update

The Waiver Hearing was held last night and was approved by the BOH. The BOH has requested a water sample once the well is completed. Nashoba Analytical would test the water quality annually for the cost of \$225.00. D. Black was unsure if the Park Commission could collect the water sample themselves.

4. Repairs to Cutler BB Court

D. Black received an estimate of \$3,087.00 from Vermont Tennis to repair the center court crack and to repaint the lines. D. Black agreed to the estimate since the company would not be able to commence the repairs for a few weeks.

*Upon a by G. Chalmers, seconded by A. Eliot it was:
Voted to approve the repair of Cutler Basketball Court by Vermont Tennis for \$3,087.00.
The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: GC, AE) DB- Abstain*

G. Chalmers questioned if the estimate included both cracks. D. Black stated yes and the project would be completed in October. A. Eliot was concerned that the project would not be finished until October. D. Black explained that the cracks would be repaired in the next few weeks and the painting and sealing would be performed in October.

5. Infield mix for Town Field/Pitcher's Mound Clay for Town Field

D. Black discussed that there are low depression areas in the baseball diamond that require an additional infield mix. The pitcher's mound also needs to be built up and repaired by using a mix of red clay. The materials cost \$48.00 a ton at Northeast Soil. 10 tons would be required for the infield and 1 ton for the pitcher's mound. The HWD could be requested to truck the material.

*Upon a motion by A. Elliot, seconded by G. Chalmers, it was:
Voted to approve no more than \$530.00 to repair the infield and the pitcher's mound at the Town Field.
The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: GC, AE) DB-Abstain*

6. Basketball hoop repair at Town Field

No update discussed.

7. Proposal to name Sawyer Way at Veterans Memorial Common

The Sawyer family is requesting to name the unnamed way that extends from Martins Pond Road to Hollis Street, the common is already known as Sawyer Common. D. Black stated that a petition to the Select Board would be required to fulfill the request.

*Upon a motion by A. Elliot, seconded by G. Chalmers, it was:
Voted to petition the Select Board to name the portion of the road Sawyer Way.
The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: GC, AE) DB- Abstain*

A. Eliot requested a historical background to present to the Select Board. D. Black recommended this item be completed by Memorial Day.

8. Roof repair Smith Pavilion

D. Black stated that 6 to 8 shingles have blown off the Southwest side of the Smith Pavilion and are in need of repair. The amount should be less than \$500.00. A. Eliot questioned if the entire roof should be shingled. D. Black does not believe that the whole roof requires replacement. There is an estimated life expectancy of 20 years.

*Upon a motion by A. Eliot, seconded by G. Chalmers it was:
Voted to approve not more than \$350.00 to repair the six shingles.
The motion passed by a roll call vote. (GC, AE) DB- Abstain*

9. Maples at Cow Pond

Natalie Greene from the Friends of the Trees Warden will be ordering a tree to replace the original Fur Tree at Veterans Memorial, as an Arbor Day project. The HWD will plant the tree. The seven trees that were lost at Cow Pond during the microburst would cost \$170.00 a tree. A. Eliot agreed on replacing the one tree being used for Arbor Day however, if a recreational master plan is necessary for Cow Pond, then the trees may be funded by the CPC. The Commission needs to strategize for future infrastructure. G. Chalmers stated that there is no plan right now and there is not a plan foreseen in the future. D. Black confirmed that the Commission received \$20,000.00 for a feasibility study and B. Pine reported that there would be an extensive amount of planting. D. Black agreed that a comprehensive plan was necessary and that he would thank N. Greene for her consideration and request that the order for the Maple Trees be put on hold.

The Fur Tree will be ordered for May.

10. Tire swing repair

D. Black inspected the Christine Hanson playground and the chain has been worn and damaged on the tire swing. Replacement parts have been ordered totaling \$221.18 and after disassembling the swing additional brackets are necessary.

*Upon a motion by G. Chalmers, seconded by A. Eliot it was:
more than \$300 to repair the tire swing at Christine Hanson playground.
The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: AE, GC) DB- Abstain*

Voted to approve no

11. Mulching Commons update

A. Eliot stated that she received an email from Penny from the Garden Club and they are willing to mulch some of the commons and ensured D. Black she would forward the complete list. A. Eliot will be working with K. Bracket on edging the memorial stones at Sawyer Common prior to Memorial Day. The Fireman Common and New Town Common will also be completed before the holiday. D. Black questioned if the Garden Club would mulch all of the commons and if they are requesting the Park Commission to pay for the materials. A. Eliot replied Prescott Common, Fireman Common and Sawyer Common would be funded and was unsure of the rest. There is an arrangement between the HWD and the Garden Club where the Garden Club pays for the mulch and then the HWD delivers it.

12. Common Fertilization/Update on Field Fertilization

D. Black received an email from Turf Unlimited stating that the fields would be fertilized by May 6, 2021 and the commons would be completed the following Saturday.

13. Update on sprinkler activation

K. Bushnell notified D. Black that the irrigation systems were up and running.

14. Flagpole at New Town Common

D. Black proposed installing a standard 20-foot, white fiberglass flagpole on Hollis Street. The total quoted cost for the pole and flag was \$775.00.

A. Eliot questioned who contributes to the flags. D. Black explained that he raises and lowers the flags. A. Eliot stated that the neighbors or abutters should be notified before installing a flagpole. G. Chalmers expressed that installing a flagpole is a step forward. D. Black commented that had experience with having to move a flag and agreed that requesting permission was necessary before installing a flagpole at New Town Common.

15. Commissioner Updates

D. Black notified the Commissioners that The American Legion would be holding a ceremony on Memorial Day commencing at 11:45 A.M.

D. Black met with K. Bushnell at the Tarbell playground and K. Bushnell did not receive any estimates for the restoration of the playground.

D. Black and G. Chalmers agreed to not allow Cutler Field be dug up for the installation of the clay pitch requested by the Cricket Group. The group is now proposing a 10 foot by 70-foot mat that would lie on top of the field, not causing any disturbances. The Cricket Group requested that they have authorization to store the mat in the shed. They are very happy to instruct any persons that are interested in learning Cricket.

G. Chalmers discussed Carol Wheeler Park and the large hole in the ground that remains abutting the common area. The caution tape is not appealing and the problem needs to be addressed. D. Black reiterated the situation to B. Garside and the potential risks to the public.

16. Field Use Permit Applications:

GD Ultimate Frisbee Group, *Woitowicz Field*
May- Mid June, Mon-Fri, 3:00 P.M-5:00

*Upon a motion by A. Eliot, seconded by G. Chalmers it was:
Voted to approve the Field use Permit Application submitted by GD Ultimate Frisbee Group for
the use of Woitowicz Field, May- Mid June, Mon-Fri, 3:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M.
The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes GC, AE) DB- Abstain*

Cutler Field Cricket Group, Cutler Field
Now-Oct, Sat & Sun 8AM-12PM

*Upon a motion by A. Eliot, seconded by G. Chalmers, it was:
Voted to approve the Field Use Permit Application submitted by the Cutler Field Cricket Group
for the use of Cutler Field, Now-Oct, Sat & Sun 8:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M. under the provision: 1.
The group returns the field to its original condition.
The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: GC, AE) DB-Abstain*

A. Eliot questioned if the Cricket Team would have access to the shed. D. Black stated that a combination code would be provided; the team is responsible for bringing out the mat and storing it away after each use.

17. Approval of Invoices

Carrot- Top (Flags) \$290.97
GELD \$394.19
O'Brien (tire swing) \$221.18
Waste Not \$135.00
Regional Restrooms (5 port a potties) \$675.00
Groton Herald (legal notice) \$71.50
Total amount \$1,796.84

*Upon a motion by A. Eliot, seconded by G. Chalmers, it was:
Voted to approve the invoices as described in the total amount of \$1,796.84.
The motion passed by a roll call vote (GC, AE) DB-Abstain*

18. Approval of minutes

*Upon a motion by D. Black, seconded by A. Eliot, it was:
Voted to postpone the approval if the meeting minutes from April 06, 2021 to the next scheduled
meeting.
The motion passed by a roll call vote (GC, AE) DB-Abstain*

19. Adjourn-7:58P.M.

*Upon a motion by D. Black, seconded by A. Eliot, it was
Voted to adjourn the public hearing at 7:58 P.M.
The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: GC, AE) DB-Abstain*

Meeting Minutes Submitted by: Donna Main

