

TOWN OF GROTON

Park Commission
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Park Commissioners

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

Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday September 5, 2021
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting
Commissioners Present: Donald Black, Anna Eliot, Kenneth Bushnell and Gail Chalmers
Others Present: Donna Main- Administrative Assistant

7:00 PM Chairman Donald Black Calls meeting to order.

Cow Pond Well Update: The well has been completed, the clock and timers are set and everything is up and running and we were under budget on the project. We dug a 350’ well and we are getting 58 gallons a minute which is more than sufficient for our needs. This was a very successful project.

Sawyer Way Update: We go before the board on Monday 9/13/21 for approval. It has been verified through Groton Historical that, as far as they know, no name has been given to the street in the past. Once the name has been approved a street sign will be ordered and we hope to have a dedication on Veterans Day.

Budget Report: The monthly update has not been received yet, once it is Donna will email it out to everyone.

Bills: All invoices were reviewed:

| | |
|--------------------|----------|
| Groton Electric | \$669.62 |
| Regional Restrooms | \$810.00 |
| Dawson Landscaping | \$292.80 |
| Waste Not | \$276.00 |
| G.W. Shaw | \$140.00 |

Upon a motion made by G. Chalmers, seconded by K. Bushnell, it was:
Voted to approve all invoices due.
The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: AE, KB, GC, DB)

There was then a discussion about the likelihood of having to go back to virtual meetings and the availability of commission members to sign invoices under such circumstances:

Upon a motion made by A. Elliot, seconded by A. Eliot, it was:
Voted to allow D. Black to be a single signer on all invoices once they are approved until further notice.

The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: AE, KB, GC, DB)

Capital Plan

- a) Change to LED at Town field Basketball Court- Currently there are mercury vapor lights there that cost several hundred dollars replace the bulbs and to run. McGregor Electric suggests LED lights since they are cheaper to both run and replace, the cost savings on the electric bill would supplement the cost of the replacement of the lights.

Upon a motion made by A. Eliot, seconded by K. Bushnell, it was:

Voted to get bids for the next meeting to replace the lights at Town Field Basketball courts from Mercury Vapor to LED.

The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: AE, KB, GC, DB)

- b) Woitowicz Tennis Court- D. Black met with Matt Waterman from LanTech to discuss the tennis courts and the thought was to make them into a “multi-use” court, to include tennis, pickleball and a basketball hoop. There has been some community interest from the neighbors regarding the courts and being able to use them. More to come at the next meeting.
- c) Hanson Playground- The playground is in need of recreational playground rubber mulch; this should only cost about \$1000 to complete.

Upon a motion made by K. Bushnell, seconded by A. Eliot, it was:

Voted to replace the playground mulch at Christine Hanson Playground.

The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: AE, KB, GC, DB)

- d) Building/Shed Repairs- All sheds and structures at all locations need work such as, trim board, siding, paint etc. At one-point kids from Nashoba Tech built sheds for us and it is possible that we could get the repairs done by them again at a good cost.

Upon a motion made by K. Bushnell, seconded by A. Eliot, it was;

Voted to check on the cost to have the students from Nashoba Tech do repairs on the sheds at all field locations.

The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: AE, KB, GC, DB)

- e) Stone Wall Repair at Town Field- There are several sections of the stone wall at Town Field that are in disrepair. The wall does not need to be rebuilt we just need a mason to come in and fix certain sections.

Upon a motion made by K. Bushnell, seconded by G. Chalmers, it was;

Voted to get quotes to repair the existing stone wall at Town Field.

The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: AE, KB, GC, DB)

- f) Flag Pole at Cow Pond Baseball Field- The 20' flag pole at Cow Pond Baseball field was knocked down in a storm last year. We would like to replace it with a 30' commercial flag pole, it will be sturdier and will last longer as well as more visible and it will match the height of the flag pole at the soccer fields. Don Black got three quotes, Charlie Rich \$2150, Central Discount Flags \$2300 and Carrot Top \$2500, all delivered and installed.

Upon a motion made by K. Bushnell, seconded by G. Chalmers, it was;

Voted to replace the flag pole at Cow Pond Baseball Field with Charlie Rich at the cost of \$2150.

The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: KB, GC, DB NO: AE)

- g) Other- K. Bushnell brought up the point that the infield at Town Field Baseball field in in need of repair. After some discussion it was decided that Town Field Baseball field will be added to the Capital Plan to start getting estimates on repairs in a timely and cost-effective manner.

Tarbell Playground Update: Last year we learned that Parks is responsible for the easement area at the Tarbell School that includes the playground area. Gail Chalmers and Don Black went out to the location and the equipment is very old and dangerous. After a meeting with the residents and O'Brien and Sons a plan has been developed for a playground that would be suitable for children between the ages of 3 to 12 years. Schematics and cost estimates have been sent to all Parks Commission members.

Anna Elliot is strongly opposed to this plan stating that she does not believe that the easement is not the property of the town but in fact the property and responsibility of the condo association.

Don Black asked Anna Eliot to bring Proof to the next meeting to support her position on the matter. If the property does not belong to the town we will step aside from the project.

Infield Groomer: The infield groomer needs a new alternator, for the time being Don Black has been taking the battery out every 10 day and charging it. At the end of the season, we will have to put the groomer in for repair.

Bids for Services: Donna has not received all bids but hopes to have them all in for the next Parks Commission meeting on October 5.

Field Use Requests:

Groton Public Library- Library Kids Program, Gazebo

October 1, 2021 10Am-11:30AM.

Upon a motion made by A. Eliot, seconded by K. Bushnell, it was;
Voted to allow the Groton Public Library to hold a Library Kids Event at the Town Field Gazebo on October 1, 2021 10AM-11:30AM.

The motion pass by a roll call vote. (Yes: AE, KB, GC, DB)

Groton Dunstable Youth Soccer Club- Soccer games and practice, Cow Pond Fields 1,2,3 and 4
September 1-October 6, 2021 Monday – Saturday 8AM-8PM.

Upon a motion made by A. Eliot, seconded by G. Chalmers, it was;
Voted to allow Groton Dunstable Youth Soccer to hold practice and games at Cow Pond Fields 1-4, from September 1- October 6.

The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: AE, KB, GC, DB)

Groton Dunstable Lacrosse Fall Ball Program- Cutler Field, September 26 – November 7, 2021
Sundays 9AM-3PM.

Upon a motion made by A. Eliot, seconded by G. Chalmers, it was;
Voted to allow Groton Dunstable Youth Lacrosse to use Cutler Field on Sundays from 9-3
From September 26 – November 7, 2021.

The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: AE, KB, GC, DB)

John Ragan- Birthday Party, Gazebo September 12, 2021 3-4:30PM

Upon a motion made by A. Eliot, seconded by K. Bushnell, it was;
Voted to allow John Ragan to hold a Birthday party at the Town Field Gazebo on
September 12, 2021 from 3-4:30.

The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: AE, KB, GC, DB)

Groton Dunstable Youth Soccer Club would like to install LED lighting at Cow Pond Brook fields at their expense, so they can use the fields later in the evening. This would save the town a great amount of money between the installation of the new lights and the cost of energy bills.

Upon a motion made by A. Eliot, seconded by K. Bushnell, it was;
Voted to allow GDYSC to replace the lighting at Cow Pond Brook fields from mercury vapor to
LED lighting.

The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: AE, KB, GC, DB)

CPC Update: Matt Waterman would like to be present for the next meeting, hopefully in person, to present his conceptual plans for the CPC.

9/11 Remembrance: On September 11, 2021 at 8:30AM there will be a 20th Anniversary remembrance of the tragedy of the day and it should be over by 9:15. This will be a silent reflection of the events of the day

to remember the lives lost 20 years ago. The First Parish will then read all 2987 names of those who perished that day at 9:30.

Commissioner Updates: None

Approval of Minutes: The minutes to be approved from past meeting were from April, May and June. All Parks Commission members have been given the opportunity to review the minutes.

Upon a motion made by A. Eliot, seconded by G. Chalmers it was;
Voted to approve the meeting minutes from the months of April, May and June.
The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: AE, KB, GC, DB)

Adjourn: 8:03PM

Upon a motion made by K. Bushnell, seconded by G. Chalmers, it was;
Voted to adjourn the September Parks Commission Meeting at 8:03PM.
The motion passed by a roll call vote. (Yes: AE, KB, GC, DB)

Meeting Minutes Submitted by: Donna K. Main
Date Approved: 10/05/2021