## Meeting Minutes

## Park Commissioners

Donald Black, Chair

Brenden Mahoney, Vice Chair

Anna Eliot

Gail Chalmers

## TOWN OF GROTON

Park Commission

173 Main Street

Groton, MA 01450

Tel: 978-732-1893

parks@grotonma.gov

**Date: Tuesday March 7, 2023**

**Time: 5:00 PM**

**Location: Town Hall, First Floor Meeting Room**

**Commissioners Present: Donald Black, Anna Eliot, Brenden Mahoney, Gail Chalmers**

**Others Present: Tammi Mickel - Parks Assistant, Matt Waterman, Fran Stanley**

**5:00 PM**  Chairman Donald Black calls meeting to order.

**Hoyts Wharf Rd. update-** Others Present: Matt Waterman from Land Tech and Fran Stanley, Groton Affordable Housing Assistant.

Matt Waterman, who is an engineer from Land Tech was present to show a proposed plan of a road from Cow Pond field to Hoyts Wharf Rd. We will need to draft a pre submission application with the National Heritage & Endangered Species. Mr. Waterman said there are several vernal pools, wetlands and a plant species on site. The proposed plan showed the potential access road, parking area of 32 spaces and multi-use field. Our plan is to provide a concept plan and photographs to present to the NHESP for an informal review. The AHT has done a habitat report Dan Wells. This area is a habitat for the Blanding’s turtle. Don Black asked what the impact would be on the stream. Matt Waterman said that would have to be addressed with conservation. There may have to be a bridge so the turtles would have access. Anna Eliot discusses the possibility of having the access road come from the ball field across from the transfer station. Fran Stanley said the AHT talked about putting in a home in the area off Hoyts Wharf Rd. The Commissioners would like to see a proposed plan that shows the whole area including the existing play fields for the possibility of the access road coming from the existing fields, which would add addition parking and consider adding a lot for a potential home for AHT. Matt Waterman will work on the new plan.

**Field Fertilization bid update**. Brenden said we are all set to have DB Lawn Solutions to provide the fertilization on the fields and commons. We have bids from DB Lawn Solutions, Turf Unlimited (who is our current vendor) and Lawn Doctor. Brenden stated he is confident in DB Lawn Solutions as they will communicate to him in advance when they will be fertilizing so Brenden can reach out to highway department so lawn mowing will not interfere and Jeff so the irrigation will not interfere. He said in the past Turf Unlimited was emailing and there was poor communication. DB Lawn Solutions came in about $400 higher than Turf Unlimited. Lawn Doctor came in significantly higher on his quote for Cow Pond field. D. Black asked Brenden if DB Lawn Solutions will sign a contract. Brenden Mahoney said yes, he will contact DB Lawn Solutions.

Upon a motion made by A. Eliot seconded by G. Chalmers, it was;

Voted to approve DB Lawn Solutions quote to fertilize all the fields and commons for the amount of $7,407.00.

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

After some discussion on the fertilization quotes, it was recommended to withdraw the vote to approve DB Lawn Solutions quote to fertilize all the fields and commons for the amount of $7,407.00 to get an accurate figure for the full season.

Upon a motion made by D. Black seconded by G. Chalmers, it was;

Voted to withdraw the vote for the approval of DB Lawn Solutions quote to fertilize all the fields and commons for the amount of $7,407.00.

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

**GDYB request for assistance installing donated sign-** D. Black said we have been asked if we can provide assistance with installing the proposed baseball entrance sign on Cow Pond Rd. The sign will have a granite post. He said we can talk with the highway department to see if they can assist in digging a trench for the posts. With the discussion of the access road to Hoys Wharf, the sign may need to get moved. A. Eliot asked if we can let them know so they can put a temporary sign?

**Woitowicz Field Tennis Court –** Don Blacksaid there are field requests for pickleball. He recommended looking into the tennis court at Woitowicz field to see if pickleball could be played at the tennis court area. Don and Brenden will take a look at the tennis court when it is not covered with snow.

Upon a motion made by B. Mahoney, seconded by A. Eliot, it was;

Voted to approve postponing the summer and fall field use permit requests until no later than our April meeting.

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

**Field Use Permits –**

1. Groton Dunstable Middle School Baseball, Town Field March 27, 2023 – June 2, 2023, Monday – Thursday 3:00PM – 5:30PM

Upon a motion made by G. Chalmers, seconded by A. Eliot, it was:

Voted to allow GD Middle School Baseball to hold games at Town field on dates requested.

**CPC update –** Anna Eliot asked if the letters of support have been submitted. Don Black said we submitted al the letters of support we received.

**Budget Report** YTD we have spent approx. $35,485.72 or 64%, of our $55,759 budget leaving about $20,273.28 in our general expense account.

**Bills:** All invoices were reviewed:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Regional Restrooms | $148.50 |
| E. L. Harvey & Sons | $171.00 |
| GELD | $384.19 |
| Dawson Landscaping | $750.00 |

Upon a motion made by G. Chalmers seconded by B. Mahoney it was:

Voted to approve all invoices due.

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

**Commissioner updates** – Gail Chalmers said she will be working on a plan and estimate on the Carol Wheeler Park parking area and the option to remove the parking area and replace with grass. Anna Eliot said we need to have a further discussion. Don Black asked Tammi to look into previous minutes to see if there was a discussion and/or vote on the Carol Wheeler Memorial Park parking area.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the February 7,2023 meeting as presented.

Upon a motion made by A. Eliot, seconded by B. Mahoney, it was;

Voted to approve the minutes from February 7,2023 as presented

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

**Adjourn:** Commissioner D. Black calls to adjourn at: 6:31 PM.

Upon a motion made by D. Black seconded by G. Chalmers, it was;

Voted to adjourn the March Parks Commission meeting.

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

**Next Meeting: April 4, 2023 @ 5:00pm**

**Meeting Minutes Respectfully Submitted by: Tammi Mickel, Parks Assistant**

Date Approved: 4/4/23