



**TOWN OF GROTON**  
Park Commission  
Town Hall  
1<sup>st</sup> Floor Meeting Room

**PARK COMMISSION**  
Brenden Mahoney, Chair  
Anna Eliot, Vice Chair  
Mary Jennings, Member  
Jeffrey Ohringer, Member  
Gail Chalmers, Member

Date: Wednesday, January 10, 2024  
Time: 5:00 PM  
Location: 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Meeting Room  
Members Present: Brenden Mahoney, Anna Eliot, Jeffrey Ohringer, Gail Chalmers  
Members Not Present: Mary Jennings  
Others Present: Katie Berry, Brian Edmonds, Rob Foley, Karen Tuomi

---

**Brenden Mahoney called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.**

---

**General Condition of Park Properties- Commissioner updates and estimates.**

**Town Fields/ New Town Common/ Minuteman Common/Orchard Common (MARY JENNINGS)** Brenden Mahoney shared an update on Town Field area, that the Christine Hanson Memorial Playground has been repaired. The commission also discussed that Town Field trash barrels were being filled by residents, both with general refuse and bags of household trash so the EL Harvey carts needed to be emptied and removed from the site. Brenden Mahoney also shared that he turned off the lights at the basketball court for the winter.

**Woitowicz Field/ Prescott Common/ Veterans Memorial Common/Hazel Grove Park/Lawrence Memorial Playground (ANNA ELIOT)** Anna Eliot had no updates on these properties. Brenden Mahoney shared that he has attempted to get a timeline of repairs at Woitowitz and will report back, he is hoping to have the fields ready for Spring 2024, as the Department of Public Works is making improvements to parking and field setup.

**Badger Common/ Firemen's Common/ Legion Common (JEFFREY OHRINGER)-** Jeff Ohringer stated that the soccer club is replacing the shed at Cow Pond, the pad was poured about one month ago, and that the shed has now been placed, with no damage to the grounds. Mr. Ohringer has met with the electrician; the process and design is moving forward well. The commissioners discussed the design, with Mr. Ohringer noting that he is pleased with the project. Anna Eliot suggested placing a plaque on the shed once completed, showing that the shed was gifted by the soccer club.

**Cutler Field/ Armstrong Memorial Common/ Lost Lake Pickleball Court (GAIL CHALMERS)-** No updates.

**CPA Project Updates, MEPA application update. Review and sign the 2025-02 Cow Pond Play Fields application (ANNA ELIOT)-** Anna Eliot moved to have Brenden Mahoney sign the CPA 2025-02 Cow Pond Play Fields application, Jeffrey Ohringer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Park Commission Budget Review (BRENDEN MAHONEY)-** The commission reviewed budget information/current balances.

**Other Discussion-** Brenden Mahoney asked the commission about the shed at Town Field, regarding the trails committee storing equipment there, making sure their equipment will be covered by insurance. Katie Berry will check with the Town Manager's office.

Gail Chalmers addressed the commission, to provide her letter of resignation from the Park Commission, effective immediately.

Rob Foley addressed the commission to offer a 20-minute video presentation on his baseball organization. Anna Eliot suggested a joint presentation with the Park Commission and Community Preservation Committee to inform both groups on the league. Rob Foley shared some information on the league and its financial status, as they are working toward becoming nonprofit and acquiring grants. The commission members shared information on upcoming work at Cutler Field with Karen Tuomi. Brenden Mahoney discussed the plans for softball fields at Cutler and lacrosse fields at Waitowitz with various upgrades done through the Department of Public Works. Karen Tuomi shared her concern for the middle school softball fields, which are managed by the school system. The commission further discussed the Groton Dunstable middle school softball fields, and the need for maintenance at these fields as well as Larter Family Memorial Field in Dunstable. Brenden Mahoney shared that he spoke with the director of facilities maintenance with the school recently, and is hoping to see a change in facility conditions. Anna Eliot suggested that the commission support that directive. Brian Edmonds, a Groton resident, shared his interest in the commission and will fill out an interest form for the new vacancy.

---

**OLD / NEW BUSINESS:**

**Sign permits/ invoices-** The commissioners reviewed and signed monthly invoices.

**Minutes-** Anna Eliot moved to approve the December 12, 2023 meeting minutes as submitted, Gail Chalmers seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Schedule Next Meeting and Commissioner Updates-** Tuesday February 6, 2024 at 5:00pm

---

**Brenden Mahoney moved to adjourn at 6:00pm, Anna Eliot seconded, and the motion carried.**

---

Minutes by Katie Berry, Interdepartmental Administrative Assistant.

**APPROVED: 2/6/2024**

---