



**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  
1 Vacancy

Date: Tuesday March 5, 2024  
Time: 5:00 PM  
Location: 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Meeting Room  
Members Present: Brenden Mahoney, Anna Eliot, Mary Jennings  
Members Not Present: Jeffrey Ohringer  
Others Present: Katie Berry, Brian Edmonds, David Pitkin

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**Brenden Mahoney called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.**

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**General Condition of Park Properties- Commissioner Updates and Estimates**

**Town Fields/ New Town Common/ Minuteman Common/Orchard Common (MARY JENNINGS)** No Updates.

**Woitowicz Field/ Prescott Common/ Veterans Memorial Common/Hazel Grove Park/Lawrence Memorial Playground (ANNA ELIOT)** Anna Eliot mentioned that there was an offer to have a tree placed at Hazel Grove, which the Hazel Grove Agricultural Association declined. Brenden Mahoney shared that Woitowicz Field updates are almost complete, which so far has much improved egress locations.

**Badger Common/ Firemen's Common/ Legion Common/Cow Pond Fields (JEFFREY OHRINGER)**- Brenden Mahoney shared that the new shed is in at Cow Pond Field, with the electrician working on the electrical hookup. Dan from Lawn Solutions has committed to connecting the irrigation piping next week, and will provide a revised estimate for Woitowicz grub control and for 2024 fertilizer programs including grub control at other parcels. Anna Eliot mentioned that we want to make sure to fertilize the commons, especially Sawyer common.

**Cutler Field/ Armstrong Memorial Common/ Lost Lake Pickleball Court-** Brenden Mahoney provided an estimate to replace basketball court rims and nets at the Lost Lake basketball courts. Mary Jennings moved to utilize unallocated gift funds in memory of Robert Piche to purchase the new rims and nets, Anna Eliot seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Other Discussion**

**Interview Applicants to fill current Park Commission Vacancy-**The Commissioners interviewed Mr. Brian Edmonds, a Groton resident, for the vacancy. The commissioners discussed with Mr. Edmonds, his background, experience, and interest in local parks. Mary Jennings moved to accept Mr. Brian Edmonds as chosen nominee for the remainder of the vacant term, Anna Eliot seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

**CPA Project Updates (ANNA ELIOT)-** The commission reviewed the final 2025-02 Cow Pond Play Fields proposal; Mary Jennings discussed the Letter of Clarification from the Affordable Housing Trust, particularly questioning use of parcel 249-51. Brenden Mahoney asked clarifying questions regarding the Town owned parcel and the egress potential. Anna Eliot shared her knowledge on the Affordable Housing Trusts plans for building on 249-51, as they have requested the Park Commission to remove this parcel from the design application. Mary Jennings will contact Fran Stanley, Housing Coordinator, working with the Affordable Housing Trust to coordinate a joint meeting between the Park Commission and Affordable Housing Trust.

**Park Commission Budget Review (BRENDEN MAHONEY) –** Brenden Mahoney shared that at the Town Manager’s User Group meeting, the park user groups had stated that they were unable to support the lack of funding. Mr. Mahoney also shared that we will have more information once the town’s override/ budgetary votes have taken place. Brenden Mahoney shared that he will talk to Mark Haddad, Town Manager to get an update on the outcome of a negative override. Mary Jennings shared that she wants to inform the public of a potential zero budget.

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**OLD / NEW BUSINESS:**

**Sign permits/ invoices-** The commissioners reviewed and signed the monthly Groton Electric Light invoice.

**Minutes-** Anna Eliot moved to approve the February 6, 2024 meeting minutes as submitted, Brenden Mahoney seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

**Schedule Next Meeting and Commissioner Updates-** Tuesday April 9, 2024 at 5:00pm

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**Brenden Mahoney moved to adjourn at 6:12pm, Anna Eliot seconded, and the motion carried.**

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Minutes by Katie Berry, Interdepartmental Administrative Assistant.

**APPROVED: 4/9/24**

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