



TOWN OF GROTON
Park Commission
Town Hall
1st Floor Meeting Room

PARK COMMISSION
Mary Jennings, Chair
Anna Eliot, Vice-Chair
Mark Presti, Clerk
Rob Foley, CPC Representative
Jeffrey Ohringer, Member

Date: Monday July 28, 2025
Time: 5:00 PM
Location: 1st Floor Meeting Room
Members Present: Rob Foley, Anna Eliot, Mary Jennings, Mark Presti
Members Not Present: Jeffrey Ohringer
Others Present: Laura Fisher, Judy Anderson

Call to Order: 5:02 p.m.
Mary Jennings acting chair, called the meeting.

Public Comments –
None.

Reports –

Chair Report

Chair Jennings gave an update CPB field; the GDYBL has ordered the tarps to protect the bases and there was an issue with the irrigation to the baseball field that has been revised. She also shared that the Town Field project is a little behind schedule due to a delay in materials. The contractors are expected to be on the fields around August 8th to do the demolition of the fields and prepare the foundation for the dugout. The project is estimated to take around three weeks to complete. DPW director Brian Callahan had let Chair Jennings know that he had investigated prices for the grounding of sheds and that it was very expensive if the Parks Department wanted proceed with that discussion at a future meeting.

CPC Rep

Commissioner Foley reported that the CPC had their election of officers at the previous meeting and that there was a small parcel near H&V Field that may be available. The CPC is waiting for remaining monies to be put back into this year's budget in order to have an accurate number in their account.

Financials –

Administrative Assistant Fisher gave a recap of previous expenses and what to expect in the upcoming months.

Old/New Business

The commissioners had a discussion on the working relationship with the DPW Department and would come up with a specific set of guidelines for both departments to be on the same page.

Upon motion by Commissioner Eliot, seconded by Commissioner Foley, that the Parks commission extend the agreement made for the previous two months for the DPW to implement Park's contracts and projects as needed. The motion was unanimously passed.

A discussion was had on creating liaisons for each user group and field. The liaisons are to reach out to their designated user groups for the purpose of keeping communication between Parks and the user group. If problems arise the commissioner is to notify the Chair, DPW Director and Administrative Assistant not act on their own or make any unilateral decisions about park matters.

Upon motion by Commissioner Presti, seconded by Commissioner Eliot, to create user group and field liaison positions and appoint current Park Commission members to those positions as indicated on the revised sheet. The motion passed unanimously.

User Group and Field Liaisons:

- Baseball, Woitowicz Field, Armstrong Mem Common, Lost Lake Courts, Carol Wheeler Park – **Mark Presti**
- Soccer, Town Field, New Town Common, Minuteman Common, Orchard Common – **Rob Foley**
- Softball, Cutler Field, Prescott Common, Vet Memorial Common, Hazel Grove, Lawrence Playground – **Anna Eliot**
- Lacrosse, Cow Pond Fields, Badger Common, Fireman's Common, Legion Common – **Jeff Ohringer**
- GDRSD – **Mary Jennings**

Commission Goal Setting –

A description on each of the three smart goals that were agreed upon at a previous meeting were discussed and revised. The commissioners designated a sub-committee of two commissioners for each goal.

- **Cow Pond Improvements** – Subcommittee of Anna Eliot & Mark Presti
- **Permitting** – Sub Committee of Mary Jennings & Jeff Ohringer
- **FY26 Needs Assessment/Strategic Planning Process** – Subcommittee of Anna Eliot & Rob Foley

Sign permits/ invoices-

Schedule Next Meeting and Adjourn- Monday, August 11, 2025 5:00pm

Rob Foley moved to adjourn at 6:50 pm, Mary Jennings seconded, and the motion carried unanimously

Minutes by Laura Fisher, Administrative Assistant.

APPROVED: September 8, 2025
