

Town of Groton  
Parks and Recreation Commission  
Wednesday, February 8, 2012  
Groton Senior Center at 7:00 PM  
Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order 7:05 PM
- II. Roll Call  
Phil Butta, Jim Kamercia, June Evered, Ed Kolnaski, Doug Ackerman,  
Jerry Lokken, Mike Crowley (Police Chief)
- III. Approval of Minutes: January 11, 2012 Meeting  
June Evered motioned, Ed Kolnaski seconded. Unanimous.
- IV. Citizens Petitions and Comments  
None
- V. Correspondence/Communications
  - A. Commissioners  
Ed - Gerry Smith award discussion.  
  
June attended Tri-town trail meeting. June looked into using the Senior Center for a fundraising event for this group.  
  
Jim – Catherine Kolnaski Magnet School is holding a golf tournament on Friday, July 27th. He inquired about a discount on the tournament fees from Shennecossett.
  - B. Interim Director of Parks & Recreation  
None
- VI. Town Council Referrals  
None
- VII. Reports
  - A. Interim Director of Parks & Recreation
    - CIP sent to Town Council. The Operating Budget in process.
    - Vermont Systems Software was selected and a memo was sent to the Town Manager for approval.
    - Performance measures data collection forms were given out. Discussion of Groton subsidizing approximately \$25,000 dollars for special needs programs for non-residents. GP&R is talking to other towns to identify possible means of reducing the subsidy.
    - Trails need coordinating.
    - Advertised for the new Parks and Recreation Director. Phil discussed process for selecting the new director. Doug said there would be a

committee. It is possible that someone from another recreation department might sit on the committee

B. Monthly Reports – Parks & Recreation  
No Comment

C. Golf Course Report / GAB – Jim D  
December and January did very well. \$24,000 in January 2012 compared to about \$6,000 last year. Pro Shop staff are working to implement automated tee time software.

D. Master Plan Committee – June  
Met on January 18, 2012. Committee decided to give priority of aquatics center over a community center. Officers were elected.

E. Boating Advisory Board (BAB) Update – Phil  
Noank Rowing Club made presentation. There was discussion about possible integration of the NRC and Groton Community Boating Club. The BAB is checking into the possibility of capping ends of shell rack. They are also researching dock systems to replace the Spicer Park dock. Officers were elected. March 22, 2012 is the next meeting.

VIII. Old Business

A. No Smoking Rule for Parks & Recreational Facilities – Representative of the Groton Town Police Department to attend the meeting  
Chief Crowley said there are no ramifications for violations of park rules at this time. An ordinance would not be a high priority in terms of enforcement. Ordinances are infractions with a mail in fine.

Esker Point problems include alcohol more than cigarettes. Recommends rule and signage rather than ordinance. The ordinance would not be strictly enforced since it just isn't possible. Ordinance would have to cover all parks. Do we want to stop alcohol at Esker Point concerts? There was also discussion on putting a sign on the crosswalk at Esker Point Beach during normal days during the summer.

IX. New Business

- A. Recreational Services Update - Jerry
- Reorganization of program funding in 3240 (New Special Revenue Fund)
    - 32401 – Rec Programs
    - 32402 – Summer Camps
    - 32403 – Special Needs
    - 1064X – Full time salaries for Rec staff (General Fund)
  - Determining appropriate level of tax payer subsidy needed to provide programs
    - Projected FY13 deficit of approximately \$33,000
    - General Fund contribution

Raise revenue

Use fund balance

- Regional Collaboration
  - Special needs programs, Hershey Track, youth basketball
  - Groton subsidy of special needs programming for non-residents is approximately \$25,000
- Vacant position – emphasis will be on marketing, community outreach, community events, grants serving all divisions
- New software and focus on new marketing/registration/customer service/data collections/reporting
- Collaborations: youth sports organizations, GASP, GPS, Chamber of Commerce
- Continuing dependence on alternative funding – sponsorships, donations, grants
- Dealing with lack of facilities (indoor and outdoor) and making due with Seely School
  - Questions about the future of Fitch Middle School and continued availability
- Operations differ from the Senior Center in that Program Supervisors manage independent contractors and Part-time/Seasonal staff rather than being personally involved in program delivery.

Summary of performance measures for Recreation. Three sections—  
Workload, Efficiency, and Effectiveness.

B. Revised Master Plan Presentation Endorsement

June made motioned to endorse the revised Plan. Ed seconded.

Unanimous vote in favor of revised presentation.

X. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, March 14, 2012, at 7:00 PM at the Groton Senior Center

XI. Adjournment 9:15 PM

June Evered motioned. Jim Kamercia seconded.