

Groton Parks and Recreation Department
Master Plan Committee (MPC)

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

6:00 PM

Groton Senior Center

Minutes

- I. Meeting called to order at 6:10 pm

- II. Roll Call: Al Nordquist, , Mike Doyle, Sue Sutherland, Carol Spunar, Wayne Chiapperini, June Evered, Doug Ackerman, Jerry Lokken

Absent: Ken Berg, Ray Munn, Lisa Luck, Kathryn Brown Tracy

- III. Approval of Minutes from May 16, 2012 – minutes were not available and various members gave Jerry Lokken copies of their notes so they can be recreated. A draft will be submitted at the next meeting for approval.

- IV. Correspondence/Communications
 - A. October 2 fundraiser for Tri-Town Trials Committee at Paddock in Ledyard

- V. Reports
 - A. Interim Director
 1. Copp Property signed letter of agreement with Groton Parks Foundation. Plan to bring in 3 firms for interviews for trail design project.
 2. With FMS being closed, GP&R are working on a mid-term plan to use the facility.
 3. Contract for Phase II of G&S Trail has been signed and funding should be received soon.
 4. Tri Town ~~Trial~~ event. *Trail*
 5. Mark Berry, the new director, will be starting Monday.
 6. Issues at Esker Point Beach with dogs, noise, overnight camping. The PRC is reviewing all parks regulations and considering various changes.

7. The Golf Course had a very successful month.
8. GP&R is working to implement new maintenance software.

VI. Old Business

VII. New Business

A. Role of Master Plan Committee

1. Doug – MPC was set up to implement the recommendations of the MPC and a number of the recommendations have been done. The recent focus on getting support for community/aquatics center needs to be revisited. What does MPC want to focus on moving forward? Al Nordquist will contact Phil Butta, PRC Chairman, to see about planning a special combined meeting of the MPC and PRC to discuss the future role of the MPC. The tentative date would be October 10, 2012.

Wayne Chiapperini feels that the Town doesn't need to hire consultants; rather, there are things the MPC can do to identify locations and narrow the focus. He stated he doesn't want to waste time and end up at the same point we are now in a couple of years. He would rather have some tangible things on paper at that time in order to be prepared to move forward. How much work does the MPC want to do before turning it over to professionals?

Jerry Lokken will share the recommendations spreadsheet with Al who will send it out to members. There was discussion that the situation and priorities might have changed in the last year or two. 1 – 5 star ratings to go to Al for correlation within 2 weeks.

2. Trails Committee was placed under MPC by Town Council, but we might want to revisit that. It may be better placed elsewhere such as under PRC or as a stand-alone committee.

Motion to recommend to the PRC the Trails Committee be implemented as a stand-alone committee reporting to the Town Council made by Wayne Chiapperini. Seconded by Sue Sutherland. Approved unanimously.

3. Discussion of fields at Merritt. There are preliminary plans. Wayne had been on PRC agenda for a few months, but he wasn't aware and isn't comfortable going to the PRC to talk on behalf of the MPC since no decisions or recommendation have been made. Mike and Wayne to meet to discuss plans at Merritt.

B. Meeting Schedule for 2013 – discussion about the possibility of meeting every other month, or taking a month off during the summer. Wayne Chiapperini made a motion to schedule 2013 meetings on the third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Carol Spunar seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Next Meeting – 6:00 PM October 17,2012 Groton Senior Center

IX. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Minutes have been approved and accepted

W. Chiapperini 2/27/13
Signature - date