

Town of Groton  
Parks and Recreation Commission  
Wednesday, April 11, 2012  
Groton Senior Center at 7:00 PM  
Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order  
Phil called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.
- II. Roll Call  
Doug Ackerman, Jerry Lokken, Mary Jo Riley, Phil Butta, June Evered, and Tricia Semancik, Jim Kamercia in attendance.
- III. Approval of Minutes: March 14, 2012 Meeting  
June motioned to approval the minutes. Tricia seconded. All approved
- IV. Citizens Petitions and Comments  
None
- V. Correspondence/Communications
  - A. Commissioners  
June: went to a presentation on the wetlands at the library.  
  
Phil: citizen concerned about climbing the rocks near PQ and was concerned if the town was liable.
  - B. Interim Director of Parks & Recreation  
None
- VI. Town Council Referrals  
None
- VII. Reports
  - A. Interim Director of Parks & Recreation (including department budget and director search updates)
    - Budget review dates: April 17; April 25
    - Recreation software contract is signed and training will begin next week.
    - Trails: informally had a meeting with tribal cultural artifact group
    - Recreation Director: finished screening the applicants; there were 18; more information to follow
    - Golf course: play down a little; still ahead for the year
    - Senior Center: gradually adding new services; community service fair was very successful and crowded with 82 vendors and 300 attendees
  - B. Monthly Reports – Parks & Recreation  
Two awards for Special Olympics were awarded.
  - C. Golf Course Report / GAB – Jim

They have acquired a woman to be on the advisory board to help balance the committee. There was a purpose statement written. Discussed posting a list of the Board members at the course.

#### D. Master Plan Committee – June

The committee last met on Mar. 21, 2012.

Ed Szczesny, Field Director of the Groton Soccer Club, spoke to the Committee. There are 300 youths, ages 4 to 14, in the club. They also sponsor summer soccer for high school boys and girls. There is a plan to incorporate the City and Town of Groton soccer programs as this allows more range in the number of opposing teams. Ed asked that this committee look at needs for playing fields from high school down and also to bring the Merritt field up to higher standards. He also questioned why men can play soccer at Poquonnock Plains without permits while boy teams require permits.

Doug gave a brief budget review. The week of April 16 is the last week of training for the new software program. The Copp Property field and trail designs have been agreed on with the Town Manager. 42 applications have been received for new director. The golf course had its best January and February ever. The State has allowed Groton use of the Oral School field.

Lisa Luck commented on the number of letters to The Day on the town's need for a community center. Doug answered a question on the proposed funding for a design study. He stated that the need has already been established. The study is to give the town specific information on the best means of fulfilling this need. Next meeting is on April 18 at 6 pm at the Senior Center.

#### E. Boating Advisory Board (BAB) Update – Phil

The Board met on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Got a permanent extension on the use of the dock. The boat rack construction continues. Hope to complete the project by the summer. Small boat day possibly June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Looking at a replacement dock in Noank.

#### F. Tri-Town Trail – report by June Evered

The committee last met on March 27, 2012. They now have some tentative dates for fundraising events. The Business After-Hours event at Karen Parkinson's place of business, The Paddock in Ledyard, is tentatively scheduled for October 2. Paul and Bea Reynolds offered to host a cocktail party at their home sometime in May, possibly on May 4. Paul Reynolds offered to be in charge of selling engraved bricks that can be placed at trail heads. The remainder of the meeting consisted mainly of planning for the different tasks that need to be taken care of in preparation for these fundraisers. The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 24 at 9:05 am at the Groton Public Library. The May meeting will take place on the 22<sup>nd</sup> at The Paddock at 7 pm.

### VIII. Old Business

#### A. No Smoking Rule for Parks & Recreational Facilities (family friendly initiative)

Looking at the ordinances and park rules for Esker Point Beach. They seem to be in conflict with one another. They are being looked at by the town attorney.

#### B. Trails Committee

3 different concepts of how to set it up:

- Trails Committee with various members of the council, BOE, and the utilities
- Set it up like the boating advisory board
- Have it appointed by the Town Council, RTM, and different departments

IX. New Business

See – VII. Reports - F above

X. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, May 9, 2012, at 7:00 PM at Groton Senior Center

XI. Adjournment

June motioned to adjourn. Jim seconded. Phil adjourned the meeting at 8:30.

Minutes have been approved and accepted.



Signature



Date