

Town of Groton
Parks and Recreation Commission
Wednesday, December 11, 2013
Groton Senior Center at 7:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order
Call to order at 7:05 PM by Jim.
- II. Roll Call
Present: Jim Kamercia, Tricia Semancik, June Evered, Mark Berry, Jerry Lokken
Absent: Phil Butta, Ed Kolnaski
- III. Approval of Minutes: October 9, 2013 Meeting
June motioned to accept the minutes. Tricia seconded. All approved.
- IV. Citizens Petitions and Comments
None
- V. Correspondence/Communications
 - A. Commissioners
June: A citizen, Conrad Heede, asked me if we could build a trail along the coast going from Groton and ending in Mystic. I told him that I thought the difficulty is that most of the coastal area is either private property or built up. I informed him of the pending 6 mile Cross Town Trail and referred sent him the GIS website.
 - B. Director of Parks & Recreation
Call from resident about drainage at the golf course; met with Bill Kelly about putting a storage container at Calvin Burrows for baseball; got an email from Mumford Cove withdrawing support for the trail; someone interested in starting a cricket program at the Oral School.
- VI. Town Council Referrals
none
- VII. Reports
 - A. Director of Parks & Recreation
Started working on CIP for 2013; working on internship manual; met with planning department on the John Kelly Memorial; met with Frost about the Merritt Property; attended NRP conference; assisted at Fall Festival; interviewed new chef for Senior Center; started toy drive at the golf course; updating the webpages; met with IT and developing a new parks interactive map similar to the interactive trails map; bump in GBA registration this year
 - B. Monthly Reports – Parks & Recreation
 - C. Golf Course Report / GAB – Jim
Had a golf meeting and approved new men's club person; June motions to appoint Bob Sedotti to the GAB. Tricia seconded. All approved.
 - D. Master Plan Committee –
No quorum
 - E. Boating Advisory Board (BAB) Update – Phil
Spicer Park Dock Replacement

- DEEP application is still in progress. BAB member George O'Brien and Jerry to discuss possible modifications which may reduce the \$58K cost.
- Rack rental and boating club dues may for next two-three years may be needed to fund costs above on-hand revenue.
- Final plan and funding approval needed from Town Manager.

Transition of program management from Groton Parks & Rec to Noank Rowing Club

- Judge Nick Kepple facilitated discussion for an agreement between GPR and NRC. NRC seeking a multi-year pact; GPR wants assurance that agreed upon programs continue.

Noank Town Dock Replacement

- Town continues to discuss options: fixed vs. floating dock

Sailing Dock

- GPR has taken possession of floating dock for sailing programs donated by contractor replacing sailing dock at Coast Guard Academy.
- Dock in good condition and may need only minor repairs.
- Dock larger than previous dock so a DEEP certificate of permission needed.
- Dock saved town about \$25-30K compared with constructing a new replacement dock.

Election of officers for 2014

- President – Bill Grady, Vice President – Beth Robinson, Secretary – Kit Talbot.

Meeting Schedule for 2014

- A reduced meeting schedule for 2014 includes March 20, April 17, Sept. 18, and November 20.

Blue Trails

• Commissioner Butta suggested BAB assist with gathering information regarding "water trails" for small boats (preferred trails for varying levels of difficulty, attractions along the trail such as restaurants, picnic areas, swimming areas.) Beth Robinson will lead the effort.

Small Boat Day 2014

- Scheduled for June; date to be determined by vendor availability.
- GPR looking at scheduling Groton's day for the regional "Great Parks Pursuits" program at Esker Point Beach in conjunction with Small Boat Day.

Councilor Thank You

- BAB thanked Dean Antipas for his active participation and attendance as Town Council representative.

F. Trails Coordinating Task Force – June

June wasn't able to attend this month. No new information at this time.

VIII. Old Business
None

IX. New Business

A. Approval of Golf Rates

GAB ~~John~~ made a recommendation not to increase the prices for a second year in a row. In consideration to current costs, June motions for a 2% increase in the golf course rates but not carts. Tricia seconded. All approved.

memberships
a 2% for green fees.
ALL

ALL
EXCEPT CARRIES.

The commission recommends a 2% increase on the rates and would like to hear from them about our recommendation.

B. Groton Parks Foundation

This needs to be promoted better. A letter is being drafted to improve this in order to get more donations.

C. Field Use Prioritization

Looking at a proposal for youth sports and having them meet certain requirements.

D. CIP Update

Facility improvements of the Merritt Property with 4 full size multipurpose fields.

\$50,000 for trail improvements has been proposed.

\$50,000 for open space is being proposed.

\$50,000 for golf course improvement plan.

\$60,000 for park improvements and ADA compliance.

\$120,000 for Noank dock

E. Meeting cancellation steps

Mark would like commissioners to call him after 4PM on meeting days if an emergency comes up and they cannot attend.

F. Meeting Schedule for 2014

No July. Second Wednesday of each month at 7PM.

G. Reappointment of GAB, MPC, BAB members

Had a golf meeting and approved new men's club person; June motions to appoint Bob Sedotti to the GAB. Tricia seconded. All approved.

Tricia motions to reappoint the BAB and GAB members: Kit Talbot, Ed Monahan, and Al Nordquist to the MPC. June seconds it.

X. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, to be determined, 7:00 PM at Groton Senior Center

XI. Adjournment

Tricia motions to adjourn. June seconded. All approved.

Minutes have been approved and accepted.

w/ chairs

Signature 

Date 1/8/14