

Parks and Recreation Commission
7:00 PM Wednesday, March 8, 2017
Groton Senior Center
Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order
7:01 pm
- II. Roll Call
Commissioners: Jim Kamercia, Jeff Zuliani, June Evered, Jonathan Grossman and Scott Peirce.
Staff: Mark Berry
Guest: Dom Bassi
- III. Approval of Meeting Minutes: February 8, 2017
Motion by Jeff with an amendment on spelling for New Business, 9, "June made a ..." and seconded by Jon. Unanimously approved
- IV. Citizens Petitions and Comments
None
- V. Town Council Referrals
None
- VI. Correspondence/Communications
 - A. Commissioners
Jeff - Groton LL has received approval to install pole lights from the FAA and Planning and Zoning with assistance of Mark Berry for Calvin Burrows Fields. Target is \$100,000. GLL is searching for financing and conducting fundraising events. Jeff and Jon reported progress.

June - Mark and June were in the Gnog Show. June summarized some of the acts that were in the show.

Jon – Groton Basketball Association (GBA) review as it was first experience with GBA. Communication between coaches and Parks and Recreation could be improved.
- VII. Reports
 - A. Golf Course Report / GAB – Jim
Still in negotiations with Par 4

Due to recent snow storms, revenue is behind revenue for the same time last year Approx \$27,000.

2017 rates approved at the last Town Council meeting. New Limited 2-person membership was approved.

June brought in the Day with an advertisement about Beaver River Course.
 - B. Boating Advisory Board (BAB) Update
Small boat day is in June and the person who is in charge did not communicate with a large vendor, now rescheduled to July 1.

April 20, 2017 is the next Boating Advisory Board.

C. Trails Coordinating Task Force – June
Nothing

D. Athletic Fields

Mark presented a magazine that lists sporting facilities in the Country.
Discussion on magazine ensued.

Jim inquired if there were any responses from the presentation on the updated athletic field needs and economic impact of hosting tournaments, to the council on the on February 14, 2017. Mark responded with, “No” Discussion concerning meeting. Jim, Jeff, and Mark attended.

E. Director of Parks & Recreation

In addition to Athletic Field Assessment and Impact, a presentation was made by Mark, Jerry, and Mary Joe on the methods of saving funds in Parks and Rec.
2 positions are available: Maintainer and office person. Mark reviewed highlights from the written monthly report from the various divisions. Highlights included updates on the Beach Sand Management Plan and the bikeway project. Groton qualified in three categories for the Day’s “Best Of” Best Golf Course, Best Golf Hole and Best Martial Arts. New summer camps have been added and Camp Button was expanded to accommodate community needs. At the Senior Center the Souper Bowl fundraiser was a big success along with the GNOG show. Parks has been working on various indoor and outdoor winter projects.

VIII. Unfinished Business
None

IX. New Business

A. Senior Center Men’s Survey Results

Survey went out and they are slowly being returned. Those that are coming back have a few points such as, cooking, health, and history class. Some suggestions include ham radio, wood carving, and electronic repair. Request of possibly inviting Grasso Tech students to assist with an electronics café , where seniors could drop off simple electronic devices that needed repairing) Suggestion about pickle ball. Discussion ensued with Dom Bassi.

B. Commission Orientation
Presentation by Mark.

Looking for volunteers for Mystic 5K on Saturday, March 18, 2017, from 8-11:30 am.

March 29, 2017- Town Council Public Hearing, 7 pm @ Senior Center. Commission invited.
April 13-Budget presented to Town Council. 6 pm @ Senior Center. Commission invited.

Suggested agenda item is a review of rules and regulations.

C. Appointment of commission member to Boating Advisory Board

Jon made a motion to appoint Scott to the BAB, seconded by June. Unanimously approved.

D. Budget Cuts

\$63,306 was issued to be cut. Software training of \$8,000 was cut. Cutting part-time account clerk-\$16,000. Scholarships of \$22,300 was removed. Cuts for grounds keeper overtime for fireworks, and supplies for fireworks. Budget is coming with least than 0 % increase. Was asked to present 5% decrease. Cutting 8 hours of driving per week at Sr. Center. Cutting 1 part-time

park staff (summer work). Eliminated weekend over-time work. Cutting hours that Parks and Rec staff work for Fall Festival. Reduce supplies to maintain parks. Discontinue Fourth of July parade (\$9000). Senior Center copier and hours of operation at Sr. Center.

Impact would be reduction of care at neighborhood parks. Would not fix broken fixtures at parks.

Implement carry-in/carry-out policy. No July 4th Parade. Reduce rides for seniors for essential services.

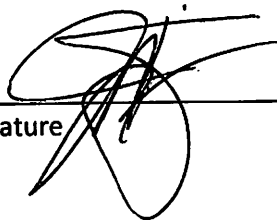
Discussion ensues.

Jim brought up to the Commission the idea of pairing the Groton Little League project to install lights at Calvin Burrows with the efforts by the Gingerella Family to memorialize their son Joey who played baseball as a youth. The proposal was to have the Gingerella Family make a \$40,000 donation towards the purchase of the lights. There would be a plaque placed on one of the light poles recognizing their contribution.

X. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, April 12, 2017 - 7:00 PM at Groton Senior Center

XI. Adjournment
Motion to adjourn by Jim at 8:31 and seconded by June. Unanimously approved.

Minutes have been approved and accepted.

Signature 

Date 4/12/2017