

**Camden Select Board
Minutes of Meeting
February 16, 2010**

PRESENT: Chairperson Karen Grove, Vice Chairperson Deborah Dodge, John French, Anita Brosius-Scott, Morgan Laidlaw, and Town Manager Roberta Smith. Also present were members of the press and public.

ABSENT: Town Attorney William Kelly

Contents

1. Public input on non-agenda items.
2. Chris Shrum and Sue Bramhall of Mind's Eye Travel to discuss a Community Development Block Grant Public Service grant proposal
3. Consideration of the request of Megunticook Rowing to lease a portion of the Barrett's Cove Lot, clear a walking path and install a float & ramp
4. Award of the bid for the 2010 Shade Tree Planting Program
5. Consideration of the following Victualers License Renewal Applications:
 - a. Wen-Ming Gao d/b/a Asian Gourmet at 133 Elm Street
 - b. Ralph B. Fisher, d/b/a Mike's Catering at the Camden Snow Bowl
6. Consideration of the appointment of John Orlando to an Alternate position on the Camden Opera House Committee.
7. Consideration of the Taxicab Business License renewal application for Christopher M. Merritt of Rockland d/b/a Schooner Bay Taxi.
8. Discussion of Emergency Management Director responsibilities and stipend.
9. Committee Reports
10. Manager's Report
11. Executive Session : collective bargaining 1 MRSA Section 405(6)D

Minutes of Meeting

1. There was no public input on non-agenda items.

- a. Jeff Kuller, General Manager Snow Bowl, reported they had a successful Toboggan Championship. Tons of people came out, it was safe, and it was financially successful, looks like strongest event financially, so far about a 6% percent increase of last year.
2. Sue Bramhall of Mind's Eye Travel and consultant Chris Shrum requested approval of a Letter of Intent to apply for the State of Maine Community Development Block Grant for a 2010 Public Service Grant. This grant will help support the expansion of sighted guide services and training for blind and visually impaired persons living in Maine.

John French made a motion to consider the proposal of Mind's Eye Travel for a CDBG Public Service grant proposal, and to set March 2nd for a public hearing. Deborah Dodge seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.

3. Ry Hills representing Megunticook Rowing came before the Board to request use of the Barrett Cove area to install a float and create a clearing for boat storage and a path to access both. They would like to place a boat rack for storage of boats instead of the use of their trailer like they did last summer. The racks would be built of wood and be designed to efficiently and safely hold the rowing shells, oars, and all of their safety equipment. In order to access the float at the proposed location they would like to cut a walking trail into and through the wooded land on the east side of Barrett's Cove. They are not asking for any funds from the town. They will be doing fundraising and Megunticook Rowing members will complete all the work if approved by the Select Board.

Board member French stated he heard today from people on the lake that Megunticook Rowing is quite noisy in the morning. It is hard for people to enjoy their decks in the morning because they use a bullhorn and the sound travels. He also understands that rowers have been harassing fisherman because boats have been coming in to fish at a popular bass place in the lake. We have to share the lake and he also heard there have been some issues with some of the boaters because the rowers have been quite vocal to them. These are things he heard to today so it appears this group is causing some impact on the lake.

Ry Hills stated she is aware there has been some issues with the sound in the early morning. They do use a megaphone they don't own a bullhorn. She does not deny this but does believe it could be resolved. As far as the interaction with fisherman and boaters she did all of the coaching last year and she never had any interaction with fisherman or boaters. She would like to talk to these people who have concerns so that they can work something out.

French stated they should start later in the day so people can enjoy their properties. The other issue he has is with the parking. Last year was not a problem because it was rainy but what happens when we have a normal summer and the place is packed where will they park?

Chairperson Grove stated she too had some phone calls about this. The complaints she heard were that often the rowers were waving power boaters to slow down lining up 6 or 7 rowing shells across so that the maneuverability of power boats was restricted. The power boats have a 200 foot setback from the shore and there has got to be a way that everybody can work together on utilizing this very small area and so far it seems to be problematic.

Her other concern is with the line of sight where you are proposing to place the path. Your location is inside the curve on Route 52.

Board member Dodge commented she would be more comfortable addressing these issues before moving forward. She does not want to turn this project down but she would like to find out what the issues are.

Board member French suggested sending a letter to lake abutters up to Proctor's Point so they have a chance to voice their concerns. Also the layout of the proposed path and clearing should be reviewed by the Camden Conservation Commission. Megunticook Rowing has discussed this with the Parks & Recreation Committee and Ken Bailey the Lake Warden for Megunticook Rowing but Camden's Conservation Commission should have also been consulted.

Manager Smith commented from the perspective that this is a public body of water and a lot of mixed uses were there before the rowing program ever came along. The state boating facilities people were not real happy about us suggesting that we need a parking spot at the boat launch for people with canoes and kayaks because they do not pay into the boating facilities fund. She has heard comments that people don't want improvements made to the boat launch area because they don't want more people coming onto their lake. The fact that people have waterfront property is a tremendous part of our tax base but the lake is also open to the public for all uses. This rowing program has a lot of good attributes that the Board has supported all along and that hasn't changed. The reason we are talking about a revocable license agreement is that the rowing program is being developed and Ry has talked to us about her vision of a boathouse and a standard program that will fit into the economic piece of Camden as a destination and another means for people to come out and get some exercise. While details are being built around their vision it gives them an opportunity to see if the program is going to work on Megunticook Lake. That site also gives the Board a chance to see how that is going to work before there is ever a building built. Before a building is built there would have to be a lease of the property and that would take a town meeting vote.

Board member Brosius-Scott expressed support of the rowing program and would echo the Town Manger's comments that it is a public area and the section of the Megunticook Lake property owners is in a densely populated area.

After further discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to consider all of Camden's needs. The Board asked Ry to communicate with the Camden Conservation Commission, lake owners, the Lake Warden and find an alternative for the megaphone and report back to them with the outcome.

4. **Anita Brosius-Scott made a motion to award the bid for the 2010 shade tree planting to Jackson Landscaping. John French seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.**
5. The Board considered two renewal victualers license renewal applications: Manager Smith reported both applications have been reviewed and approved by the codes Officer and the Camden Fire Department.

John French made a motion to approve the following renewal victualer license applications:

- a. **Wen-Ming Gao d/b/a Asian Gourmet at 133 Elm Street**
- b. **Ralph B. Fisher, d/b/a Mike's Catering at the Camden Snow Bowl**

This motion was seconded by Deborah Dodge. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.

6. **Anita Brosius-Scott made a motion to appoint John Orlando to the Opera House Committee as an alternate for the balance of the current year. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.**
7. **John French made a motion to approve the renewal of the Taxicab Business License for Schooner Bay Taxi. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.**
8. The Board discussed with Fire Chief Chris Farley the Emergency Management Director responsibilities and stipend. The duties of Emergency Management Directors have changed significantly in recent years. This compensation does not come close to the responsibilities and workload now associated with these positions. The EMA Director stipend has been \$500 for a number of years and the Emergency Management Director is currently part of the Fire Chief's job description. The request was to increase the stipend to \$2,500 for Emergency Management Director and \$500 for the Deputy Management Director. The Board agreed that this position should be entitled and is deserving of an increased stipend because the job description has evolved since it was created but some Board members felt it was the wrong year to be adding \$2500 to the budget especially when we vote for a zero percent cost of living for all town employees and we aren't not putting much money into any capital improvement projects.

After further deliberation,

John French made a motion to increase the stipend for Emergency Management to \$1,500/yr for the director and leave at \$250/year for the Deputy beginning with FY11. Deborah Dodge seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 3-2-0 vote. (Brosius-Scott and Dodge opposed.)

9. Committee Reports

Parks and Recreation Committee: Morgan Laidlaw reported that the Snow Bowl is way ahead of last year as of February 1st. At this time it looks as though the Snow Bowl will end this year in the positive.

Planning Board: Deb Dodge reported that they are working on proposed amendments to the Camden Zoning Ordinance for June. They are not going to push design standards to the June ballot. They have decided to wait on this amendment to give them an opportunity to hear from more people.

CEDAC: Peter Gross updated the committee on the TIF proposals. He is going to be working on doing an article for Village Soup. Alan Hinsey of Knox Waldo Regional Economic Development provided an update on the Tannery site. The final piece is waiting for a reappraisal. At their next meeting they will talk about a Development Director.

10. **Manager's Report** – Manager reviewed the budget calendar. The Budget Committee will finish their review on April 1st. She would like the Select Board to think about which April

meeting they want to review the budget or if they would like it on a separate night.

- 11. At 9:00 pm a motion was made to enter into Executive Session: collective bargaining 1 MRSA Section 405(6)D. Deborah Dodge seconded this motion. The motion passed on a 5-0-0 vote.**

At 9:20 pm the Board came out of executive session.

A motion was moved and seconded to adjourn at 9:21 pm.

Janice L. Esancy
Recording Secretary