

## Camden Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2012

5:15 pm, Washington Street Conference Room

**Present:** Jeff Kuller, Brian Robinson, Ray Andresen (chair), Peter Brown, Jim Heard (Select Board liaison), David Olivas, and Ed Libby. Excused: Beth Ward, Pete Conover, Sharon Gilbert. Guests: Geoff Scott and Ry Hills.

*Ray Andresen opened the meeting at 5:19 pm.*

**Minutes:** Peter Brown moved to accept the April 11, 2012 meeting minutes as presented, Ed Libby seconded the motion, and it passed 5-0.

**Megunticook Rowing:** Ry Hills presented a written proposal for holding an open house at Barrett's Cove on Saturday, June 2 to celebrate National Learn To Row Day. David Olivas moved to approve the proposal, which will be presented to the Select Board, and Ed Libby seconded the motion. It passed 5-0-0.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Pathways:** Geoff Scott reported that the Pathways Committee has formally applied for funding from Camden Rotary for the Megunticook Riverwalk at the old Tannery site and that the Select Board has agreed to submit a community grant request for extending the Route One sidewalk from Quarry Hill to the bus stop at Maritime Energy. Jeff Kuller added that the Conservation Commission would like to hold a community walk from the Harbor to the Teen Center to promote a downtown riverwalk, but that could complicate future negotiations with landowners along the proposed Riverwalk, so he has requested the commission to hold off on that – which they have agreed to.

**US National Toboggan Championships®:** Ray reported that Holly (Anderson) Edwards will replace Sharon Gilbert as chair of the 2013 Toboggan Championships committee.

**RMRA Redevelopment:** Jeff reported that the septic system will be fixed this summer at a projected cost of \$260,000. Payment for the new septic system is being negotiated between the RMRA and the town.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Property Brochure:** Ed Libby and Ray will do a site tour of the Park-Rec properties next week.

**Shirrtail Point:** Ray will make arrangements for a special meeting to solicit ideas and opinions from neighbors and others interested in the future of Shirrtail Point.

**Playing Fields:** Jeff reported that the John Novak has applied a new liquid fertilizer but said the fields need more dry compost to increase the organic material which will support better grass growth. Building up the organics will take several years with the current budget for field maintenance.

**Summer Rec Program:** Jeff reported that the new 5-days-per-week program is more popular, as expected.

### NEW BUSINESS

**State Park-Rec Conference:** Jeff reported that Dalene Dutton from Five-Town Communities That Care made an interesting presentation on how parks and recreational activities contribute to "preventative care" by helping keep kids out of trouble. He will invite her to come to the Snow Bowl to help train coaches and staff in this area. Jeff also noted that the Maine Trails Finder (website), a Maine mapping company, could be a good resource for uploading our biking and hiking trails. They may also be a good resource for our proposed property brochure.

**Program Planning:** The Committee discussed the need for taking a more active approach to examining potential additions or expansions to Park-Rec programs, especially in programs for seniors or other underserved groups.

**Upcoming Events:** There will be a trail building workshop with the New England Mountain Bike Association on June 9-10 at the Snow Bowl. The Ragged Mountain Fat Tire Festival will take place July 13-15. The Walker Bros. Circus will come to the Snow Bowl Parking lot again July 26th.

**Snow Bowl Finances:** No report. However, after discussing upcoming events, it was decided that the Committee would review rental rates at the Snow Bowl Lodge and asked that Beth Ward prepare a report on current rates, usage, and comparative rates for the next meeting.

**Maiden Cliff Trail:** There have been several blowdowns blocking the trail and a bridge needs to be inspected, repaired.

*Ed motioned to adjourn at 6:10 pm, David seconded the motion, and it passed 5-0.*

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, June 20, 2012 at 5:15pm in the WSCR

Minutes recorded by Ray Andresen