

Camden Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2011

5:15 pm, Washington Street Conference Room

Present: Ray Andresen (chair), Martin Cates (Select Board liaison), Jeff Kuller, Peter Brown, Molly Mulhern, Sharon Gilbert, Beth Ward and Guest: Geoff Scott, Camden Rockport Pathways

Excused: Ed Libby, David Olivas and Brian Robinson

Ray opened the meeting at 5:25 pm

Peter motioned to accept July 13, 2011 meeting minutes as amended, Ray seconded the motion, and it passed 4-0.

Presentation from Geoff Scott, Pathways Committee and Megunticook Riverwalk Coalition:

The pathways committees' vision is to develop a walking and bicycling path from Shirttail Park down to town, to provide an off road way to get to the middle school, a nature path, a pathway for exercise, and a way to connect neighborhoods. They have submitted a grant application to the National Park Service for guidance (not funding) on the Megunticook Riverwalk project. Ray will be the liaison on this project.

Committee Reports

RMRA Redevelopment: Jeff reported that he heard the community meeting on 7/27 was positive and supportive. The next step for the fundraising committee is to focus on sorting out the naming opportunities. Jeff reported that some individuals question the erosion, cutting of numerous trees and disturbing of wildlife if we go ahead and build the multiuse trail. The Planning Board has approved a permit, DEP issued a permit-by-rule and the Army Corps of Engineers also gave approval to the project. An RFQ (request for qualifications) was sent out, 6 excavation contractors came for a site inspection, and 2 companies submitted qualifications proposals. Jeff will be asking the Select Board on Tues. to allow the town manager, attorney and himself to choose and move forward with the best qualified contractor.

US National Toboggan Championships®: The committee will have a presence at Windjammer Weekend. Next meeting is September 7.

Other Business:

Playground Plans: Beth reported that the West Bay Rotary still wants to donate \$11,000 to fund a community project in the form of a playground. There was concern raised about the ongoing ability for Parks and Rec to take care of a new playground, especially the annual costs associated with inspection and maintenance. Ray and Beth will meet next week.

Sports Field: The field is in good shape, thanks to John Novak's assistance (high school groundskeeper) and good weather conditions. Plan to review the Field Use Policy in November.

5-Town Football: Wants to place a shed on skids on the field for the season to store their equipment and possibly sell food from it. Jeff will check with Bill Kelly to determine what kind of agreement might be required by the town.

Open Space Guide: Beth reported that with the help of Brian Hodges, Camden's Development Director, a group has been formed to develop a regional open space guide. Although this is of larger scope than a Camden Open Space Guide was originally envisioned, Brian believes that there will be funding available to develop a broader guide. The first meeting will be Thursday, August 11. Beth will report back.

Construction Projects:

Laité Beach Seawall, Steps, Paths and Drainage: project to be funded by the town; work to begin in September.

RMRA Stream Clearing and Ditch Drainage: Submitted a permit-by-rule application to clean out choked off areas in the stream, and repair ballfield and access road ditches. Waiting for permit approval.

Bog Bridge (Route 105) Boat Ramp: Bid specifications have been sent out. The Planning Board has only recently decided to evaluate the project and design. The work will be entirely paid by the State DOC.

Chamber Building Repairs: Shingles and bulletin boards on the front of the Chamber of Commerce building have been replaced and look great.

Summer Camp: Will be over Thursday, August 11. It has been a smooth program. Enrollment was down.

Upcoming Events:

Chairlift rides: Sunday, August 14th

RMRA Redevelopment: Booth at the Maine Boats, Homes and Harbor show 8/12-8/14

Harvest Hootenanny: Saturday, September 10th

Peter motioned to adjourn, Molly 2nd all in favor 4-0-0.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 21 at 5:15 pm in the Camden Snow Bowl.

Minutes recorded by Beth Ward