

## Camden Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

December 11, 2013

5:15 pm, Washington Street Conference Room

**Present:** Ray Andresen (chair), Landon Fake, Casey Heard, Jim Heard, Ed Libby, David Olivas, Geoff Scott, Beth Ward. Excused: Pete Brown, Brian Robinson.

Ray Andresen opened the meeting at 5:16 pm.

**Minutes:** Casey Heard moved that the November 13 minutes be approved, Ed Libby seconded the motion, and it passed 3-0.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Ragged Mountain Redevelopment:** Landon Fake reported that a forester has been tentatively engaged to assess the feasibility of harvesting timber from areas where cutting will be needed for the new lift lines and/or trails. He also said we are working on a new location for the tubing hill. The redevelopment timeline will be distributed at the next meeting.

**National Toboggan Championships:** Beth Ward reported that work is progressing on the new four-color brochure/program and a site map for the event. She also noted that the championships and the Snow Bowl are receiving a lot of good publicity, including having two floats and Snow Bowl groomers in the recent Christmas-by-the-Sea parade. Ed Libby added that a shed will be placed at the planned bus stop next to the Town Green one week before the event to help promote the championships. It was mentioned that the Camden Winterfest will take place the week before the Toboggan Nationals and will be a week-long event leading into the championships. However, there will be no skating rink at the Library Amphitheatre this year.

**Pathways:** Geoff Scott reported that a survey is being planned to assess potential customers for a Midcoast bus transportation system between Camden and Thomaston. He also noted that John Anders is the local representative for the MDOT master plan and that discussions are continuing about possible changes to the intersection of Conway Road, John Street, Camden Street and Route 1 with the coming extension of a sidewalk along Route 1 into Rockport. The Pathways Committee is also preparing a survey of the Town's sidewalks with a prioritized list of needs. Finally, the Town is waiting for state funds to be released for the new sidewalk on Washington Street to Shirt-Tail Point Park.

**Public Landing/Riverwalk:** Ray Andresen reported that he and Geoff Scott will meet with Development Director Brian Hodges to discuss plans for committee oversight of the Riverwalk development process. Geoff also reported that the Town has applied for an RTP grant for the Riverwalk section between Seabright Dam and Mt. Battie Street.

### FINANCIAL REPORTS

**Snow Bowl Operations:** Landon reported that a compressor has broken down and needs to be fixed or replaced. Estimated cost is \$12,000 to \$15,000 for repairing the compressor. Beth reported that orientation for about 80 seasonal staff and volunteers took place last weekend and that everything is looking good for the Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> opening date. We have already hit 69 hours of snow-making. She also reported that non-Camden residents over age 70 will be charged a \$50 processing fee this year. Ray suggested that financial reports be distributed to the Committee on a quarterly instead of monthly basis.

### OLD BUSINESS

**Senior Programs:** Ed Libby raised questions about the direction, implementation and staffing of a senior program for Camden. After discussion, it was suggested that the Parks and Recreation Department should conduct a community survey. Because of the hectic winter season, any further action was postponed until mid-March.

**Parks Brochure:** Ed Libby noted that it might cost about \$3,500 for reprinting the brochure.

**Committee Goals:** A list of goals for 2014 was distributed to the Committee. It will be reviewed at the next meeting and the goals will be prioritized.

**Property List:** Landon shared a revised property list that includes all Town-owned properties, which total more than 750 acres. The Committee will try to prioritize property issues and needs at the January meeting.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Upcoming Events:** The Snow Bowl season opener is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 20. The Ski and Snowboard Club will hold a New Year's Eve fund-raiser on Dec. 31.

David Olivas moved the meeting be adjourned, Ed Libby seconded the motion, and it passed 4-0 at 6:25 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, Jan. 8 at 5:15 pm in the WSCR.

*Minutes recorded by Ray Andresen*