

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting
April 11, 2018

Ray Andresen
Geoff Scott
Nina Holland
Tom Resek
Casey Leonard
Brian Robinson
Beth Ward – Snow Bowl
Holly Edwards – Snow Bowl
Audra Caler-Bell (town manager, guest)
Paul Leeper (Megunticook Watershed Association, guest)

Committee membership

Ray

David Olivas has resigned and so there is one position open if we know of anyone.

Presentation by Paul Leper – helping with erosion and other Barrett’s Cove

Paul Leeper – Megunticook Watershed Association

Beautification, but improving the water quality at Barrett’s Cove.

We occasionally have water advisories, and one of the causes can be runoff from the land.

Issues at Barrett’s Cove have been caused by overuse and under-maintenance

Until four years ago, for about 10-15 years, a flashboard was put at the top of the dam.

Might have helped in terms of creating hydropower downstream, but it affected erosion.

Problems not addressed:

Parking lot redesign and culvert repositioning.

See printout of Paul’s Powerpoint.

Role of Association:

Boots on the ground to help with installation.

We can look at grants.

Have a contact in the Association who is a professional grant writer and can look at those types of things.

I think we could also put forth some funding to help.

A lot of this stuff (to help with erosion) is heavy on manual labor, and light on materials.

We reached out very informally to the Garden Club and they expressed some interest in this.

This project is toward the top of our priority list.

I don’t envision all of this going out and being put in in two weekends. If it gets started this year, and all of these items get done in two years, I would be happy.

Permitting is not onerous.

Get ducks in a row, then prioritize work, and as far as beautification and water quality these things are the big ticket items.

Next steps:

Beth

I think the parks crew could do some of the re-grading. It has been earmarked to look at this year anyway. Will bring Tom Beauregard (Grounds Maintenance Manager) down there to look at it and make a plan to go forward. Maybe a landscape architect could help.

Audra

Maybe both this area and Shirttail are in need of a landscape architect to look at what is needed.

Ray

Maybe bring Rick Seibel in first, let him do some of the preliminary work before we start spending money on the architect.

Audra

Yes, but at the end of the day, someone will need to come in and do the design work.

Ray

When you are ready to get Tom there, let me know and I will arrange with Paul Leeper to meet you there.

Beth

Parks crew uses the access area maybe twice a year to pick up branches, and to bring mowers in.

Paul

Maybe that's where the gate is appropriate.

Beth

And the crew will need to drive over some of this area to do work.

Paul

And that's where the Knox and Lincoln Counties Soil and Water group can be a big help, because they know of who and how to access some high tech erosion control mats, and where to reach out for funding grants.

Beth

I will get some folks together and schedule a meeting to visit both places. Determine the short and long term fixes, and then draft an RFP to go out and find a landscape architect.

Streamling and Tasking Parks and Rec Committee

Audra

One thing we are rolling out to all committees is work plans for all committees. Fill out the work plan, it goes back to the Select Board for review. Don't want anybody to get into a situation where you are working on something that won't get listened to. And to avoid committees working on the same things, like the street light example.

Beth and I drafted some quick ideas to get you started.

Ray

When would you like it back?

Audra

Probably by the June meeting.

Tannery Update

The people we wanted to have come in the 9th can't do that. Instead, can we do May 11, a Friday, at noon. Meeting will be at the Washington Street Conference Room.

Nina

I live across the street from the park. Trucks were parking there and running with diesel at all hours. There was an ordinance, but not good enforcement. The tree guys take their lunch at Megunticook Market and sit there. It's a good place to park and eat their lunch. My fear is that those with heavy trucks will start doing it too. It's hard on that pavement, and it's a conservation issue. Just on the parking surface. Not bad pavement now, but more heavy trucks on that, it will be an issue.

Another issue, is a resident in Camden said she takes her mother to points and can't get out and view many, like Sea Street, due to trees and shrubs are not cut back. If they could be cut back.

Trying to get development of the park for over 10 years, and research possible grants. It's confusing to me, can we go ahead and ask for other grants, or do we do it one at a time?

Tom

Audra does not want any money raised for any one project yet. Wants to coordinate the committees.

Snow Bowl update

Select Board last night approved Beth's recommendation for four-season retail at the Snow Bowl, to Sidecountry sports. Charlie Pearson and Ragged Mountain Sports will maintain the rental fleet.

Select Board also approved the proposal to put a shed on the football field, location to be determined. Beth and Jeremy (town planner) will be working to find the best location.

Usage fees on the field: We should be prepared for some sort of plan on that. Decided to be added to the working plan for the Parks and Rec Committee. Focus on a booking fee for organized groups to use the field exclusively.

Week in May, that Friday, since we have other things we might need to discuss I am going to keep the Wednesday meeting.

Next meeting:

May 9 at noon