

North Yarmouth Parks Committee

Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at 6:00 PM
Wescustogo Community Center

Minutes

Attendance: Bob Abbott, Marty Kremer, Laurie Gilman.

Karl Cyr, Select Board liaison

Guest: Mandy Ball

I. Call to Order 6:04 pm

II. Approval of Minutes: September minutes approved, vote 3-0

III. Public Comment: None

IV. Old Business:

- A. Determine new Chair or Co-chairs - Laurie Gilman & Bob Abbott elected to be co-chairs, vote 3-0
- B. Village Center trail report. Waiting for work to be done. Town Manager is in contact with the contractor. Construction delays due to weather.
- C. Park monitor program – Marty Kremer agreed to monitor Baston Park, Bob will monitor the Village Trail
- D. GPCOG – we do not need a second member for this committee
- E. Invasives control planning report. Not sure where the town is at with the contractor. Will check with town manager.
- F. Implementing tree removal plan for North Field of Chandler Brook Preserve. Trees are marked but we need to prioritize which ones to be cut first to help maintain scrubland habitat. Will check with town manager to ask Public Works for possible scheduling.
- G. Budget review. Budget looks good.

Discussion of budget prompted a lengthy discussion about the Baston Park dredging project as it is a major budget item. Concerns about water levels if the Yarmouth dams are removed. Is it worth the time and money to pursue this when there is so much uncertainty? Committee voted 3-0 to table any further discussion or financial commitments

until such time that we have more definitive information about the dams and water levels. We will ask the Town Manager to keep us updated on any progress.

H. North Yarmouth Annual Report - Bob & Laurie will work on the report for 2022-2023

I. Parks Reports Round table

- a. Eleanor Hayes Town Forest had a washout, Public Works was notified.
- b. Kelly Greenlee from Prince Memorial Library contacted Bob about a walking group that would like to have someone from the Parks Committee walk with them at Chandler Brook Park. Bob & Laurie will host the group.

J. Park Signs – This is a long-term project that needs to get wrapped up. Laurie will take on the project. Marty offered support

V. New Business

A. The Knight's Pond white trail boardwalk project is very complex. It will require many people to help build boardwalks. Bob Abbott willing to work on it and get info from Cumberland counterparts about a similar project they did but he cannot do it on his own. He has presented a material list and budget. Committee agreed to help Bob and will look into getting a volunteer group together.

B. Invasives - Mandy Ball & Mike Schwindt have been working with a small group of North Yarmouth & Cumberland residents to fight invasive plants. Most of their work has taken place at Prince Memorial Library but they want to expand their area and offered to help with North Yarmouth parks. The Parks committee would like to explore this opportunity.

Mandy mentioned that there will be a speaker at Val Halla on Oct 19 regarding invasives. She will send details.

C. Signs for the new 2nd kiosk in OTHP. Need park rules, hunting, park map and the poster with Parks email to report problems

D. Implement permanent hunting signs in all areas - Town manager asked Public Works to put up hunting signs in parks but hunting is possible most of the year. Will include with sign project.

E. Committee members need to sign the town remote policy - will have available at November meeting

VI. Adjournment 7:47 pm