

Meeting Notes

Date: 6/08/2023

Committee: Parks Commission

5:34pm-6:38pm

Attendees (members)

David Wrocklage (DW)—
Gail Turner (GT)

Sarah Phillips (SP)
Maureen Bilodeau (MB)

Robert McDonough (RM)
John Corrigan (JC)

Guests

none

Minutes:

1. Reviewed, discussed and approved 5/11/2023 Minutes with no changes:
2. Informal discussion of Park attendance and events:
 - a. Recent conflict of dogs at FF-attendee was harassing dog owners and threatening harm, prompting police interaction. Brings attention to extensive use of park and the potential of conflicting views of acceptable public access for people and pet owners.
3. Discussed 5/30/2023 resignation of long standing and dedicated Park Committee member Denise Payne, who will be sorely missed, as she brought much passion to role and was a big part of the invasives removal effort. SP stated other recent applicants are available and will begin to review and start the process to bring on board.
4. FF Boardwalk is in process with DPW to determine if we will need DEP permit.
5. Discussed recent Invasives Program call for no action until fall 2023.
 - a. Suggestions considered of resultant invasive removal
 - i. Cleared area by Battery Bohlen's/ Searchlight Shelter (Items 15 and 17 on FF map Figure 8)-Put in picnic table, mulch area potentially to hold back regrowth as recent removal efforts has increased recreation area.
 - ii. Ideas to provide picnic tables in cleared areas
 1. Memorial sponsored picnic table
 - iii. Review formal procedure to raise suggestions to Town Manager/Council.
 - b. Reminder that we now have Invasive Program Coordinator Haley Mock, executive Assistant to Town manager (207-475-1311) to work with us.
6. Review 5 Year Plan: As group we reviewed copy of 2018-2023 Parks Management Plan and began to highlight suggested edits. Reviewed through Section 1.3.
7. Open Discussion
 - a. Dump sticker requirement is offensive to some to use town parks. Suggested should be **Town sticker**, not a **Dump Sticker**! Use of Dump must be a Town Sticker.
 - b. Battery Chapin Non-Storm Shelter Warning should be permanent sign on structure.
 - c. RM asked due to his summer activity schedule on Tuesday night if one PC attendee could attend Kittery Climate Action Committee for July August September to represent PC in my stead. RM will remind PC previous week. Meeting is same week as PC meeting except on Tuesday.

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