

**Town of North Yarmouth
Parks and Recreation Committee
March 3, 2021
(Zoom)**

I. Call to Order – 6:30

II. Minutes Approved (5-0)

III. New Business

A. Chair Bob Abbott introduced Adam. Adam introduced himself. He is learning the ropes and offered his services to Parks and Recreation where appropriate.

B. **TIF funds:** Items to be placed in the TIF Project Planning Expenditures under Recreational Trails will include 2 picnic tables for Baston Park, 2 picnic tables for Wescustogo, 2 stand up grills, one each for Baston Park and Wescustogo and a bench with a back for Chandler Brook.

1. The P&R budget proposal will see a shift from account 5635 of \$3,200 to the TIF expenditure budget. Rosemary to check with Greg Payson re: grills at the parks and Steve to check on bench prices.

2. The P&R budget proposal will see a shift from account 5635 of \$3,200 to the TIF expenditure budget. Rosemary to check with Greg Payson re: grills at the parks and Steve to check on bench prices.

IV. Old Business

A. **Chandler Brook Mowing:** Rosemary will be in contact with Ken Norman for a mowing/haying contract for the upper fields. June 15th would be the earliest mowing can begin. This date needs to be verified with Ken Norman as workable. This does not include the lower North Field.

B. **Milkweed Project:** Ted reported a change in the plans for the install of milkweed plants. Due to uncertain and unknown spring field conditions it seems wiser to scale down the number of people involved in planting the “first” run.

1. A small group will be involved, hoping for sometime in early to mid-May. 2. Adam Pereira reminded P&R of the Trails Group that meets every Wednesday, suggesting those volunteers might like a change from construction to planting.

C. **Chandler Brook Management:** Rosemary asked the group how it would like to approach finalizing the management plan. She had met with Ben Smith, a consultant the previous chair Bryan Emerson met with on this subject. The committee agreed it would be appropriate to have Rosemary request a proposal for a comprehensive management plan for the park and how that service would be provided- a scope and service proposal. A motion was made by Bob and seconded by Anne.

1. A motion was made by Bob and seconded by Anne. Approved by a 5-0 vote.

D. **Lagasse Property:** the boundaries of the Lagasse property need to be organized and reviewed for completeness to determine if more information is required to gain an accurate boundary description. A motion was made to have Rosemary request a price from surveyor Wayne Wood to review the boundary documents for completeness, create a sketch survey and if more information is required, indicate what would be required to make the documents complete.

1. Motion made by Scott, seconded by Anne. Approved by a vote 5-0.

E. **Invasives:** It was agreed to move ahead with Erik Lema's proposed schedule for continuation of the attack on invasives. Motion by Bob, seconded by Steve to use \$5,200 from reserves to commence work on invasives. Vote 5-0. Rosemary to contact Erik Lema.

F. **Animal Control Ordinance:** Rosemary met with Bobby Silcott to discuss matters related to park users complaining about off leash dogs showing aggressive behavior.

1. Rosemary made the plea to have people call the ACO and report incidences. Park signage indicating the ACO name and contact information is necessary to communicate this.

2. Dog waste at Knight's Pond is an increasing problem, with poop bags showing up hanging off branches.

3. Bobby Silcott will be at our Town Meeting.

G. **Eleanor Hayes Town Forest:** Scott reviewed the research he has done on how Cumberland has tackled their problem with invasives, particularly glossy buckthorn.

1. Scott envisioned a similar approach to tackling the heavy infestation of buckthorn at the EHTF.

2. He is proposing a trial be undertaken to do this. He sees community support for the expenditures if they could see the benefits of the work. Scott will develop a proposal to run a trial program, maybe at OTHP, using a similar strategy being employed in Cumberland.

3. Rosemary will check to see if Cumberland would rent their Brontosaurus with the off chance this would save dollars from hiring a contractor.

H. **Round Robin:** Adam Pereira reminded the committee to reach out for work/needs that RRCT may be able to provide or assist.

I. **Meeting adjourned at 7:58**

Minutes recorded by Steven Palmer