

**North Yarmouth**  
**July 7, 2022**  
**Parks and Recreation Meeting**  
**Minutes**

**Meeting Called to Order at 6:33 pm**

**Present Members:** Scott Kerr, Steve Palmer, Bob Abbott, Kim Merrill, Laurie Gilman  
Rob Haile joined the meeting to observe, Rob recently applied for one of the open vacancies on the Parks and Recreation Committee.

**Announcements:** Per the Charter the committee must elect a chairperson and a secretary at the July meeting. Bob Abbott made a motion to re-elect Scott Kerr to continue as our chairperson, motion was seconded. The committee unanimously voted for Scott Kerr as our chairperson. The secretary position will be shared by all members at this time.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made and seconded to approve of June 2022 meeting minutes. Unanimous approval.

**Financial Report:** Steve Palmer advised that Diane Barnes was still in the process of completing the budget.

**Public Comment:** No comments were made at this meeting

**New Business:** No new business was reported

**Old Business:** The Story Walk was discussed. Diane Morrison from the Living Well Committee made a presentation to the Select Board. The Select Board voted to accept the proposal. A lot of work has been done by members of LWNy and P&R committees to clear trails for the Story Walk. Living Well is asking that this be a joint involvement with Parks and Recreation Committee.

Kiosk: The new kiosks have been delivered and installed. Wescustogo kiosk has been refurbished. It was discussed at length about the appropriate information that should be placed on the kiosk and allowed. Scott Kerr asked who on the committee would like to take charge of what information should be used on the kiosks. It was discussed that we should include a sign on the kiosk of who the public should/can contact on the committee, including the names and telephone numbers. There have some notices of lost dogs posted on the kiosks. Steve Palmer suggested that all signs should go through the committee for approval before they are placed on any of the kiosks. Further discussion needed.

Bob Abbott advised that the emails the public sends to the Parks and Recreation website are not coming to either himself or to Scott Kerr. Scott will send the link for Kim Merrill to check for any new emails. *Steve Palmer will create a sign that will direct people to contact the Town Office before posting any lost animal, and such, on our kiosks.*

Steve Palmer spoke on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Committee on the exceptional job that Clark Baston and crew have been doing for our parks.

**New Applications for committee vacancies:** Steve Palmer requested that we need to move on the process for candidates to be selected for the two openings on the Committee.

**All Parks:** Picnic tables and benches are now all out in all the parks and being used by park visitors.

### **Rules and Regulations**

There was a discussion on a sign(s) for Rules and Regulations for each park. It was decided that Laurie Gilman would create a draft for a sign and email this to draft to all committee members for approval/agreement of the verbiage before we commit to posting at the parks. *The sign will be small size and posted on the kiosks avoiding a separate standalone sign at this time.* A copy should also be sent to Diane Barnes at the Town Office to make them aware.

### **Park history and descriptive material**

Scott Kerr is enjoying writing about all the parks history and will be sharing his finding with the committee in the near future.

### **Webpage**

All committee members were asked to look at our website as it needs updating. Laurie Gilman will send a link to each member. Please offer your feedback.

**Chandler Brook:** Regarding signage it is felt a little love is needed for the Chandler Brook sign. All other signs should be ok for now.

The Bobolinks per Maeve: she found at least 2-3 breeding pairs. It is unknown at this time if the fledglings have actually flown. Laurie Gilman will check the other parks and report. Our guest Rob Haile advised to the committee that Wolfe's Neck has posted signs in some of their fields regarding the nesting of the Bobolinks. Scott Kerr asked if the committee if they would like to continue with discussing creating a sign for our parks as well, in hopes to educate park goers about the bobolinks and not letting dogs, horses and people running in the fields during the breeding season. *Further discussion required.*

### **Haying**

Steve Palmer will contact Clark Baston regarding other potential people who could hay Chandler Brook, Wescustogo and Old Town House Park fields. And be willing to fertilize and lime the fields.

### **Erosion**

Bob Abbott advised that there is more erosion in the South Field at Chandler Brook, possibly made worse due to many dogs being allowed to into the river to swim.

### **Management plan**

A section of the management plan regarding “minor structures” and “recreational mowing” will be included in the document being written by Steve Palmer and Bob Abbott

Bob Abbott and Steve Palmer met Alan Stearns to finalize the management plan for Chandler Brook. An agreement was reached and a plan will be present to the committee for the August meeting. Alan mentioned that RRCT’s Chad is working on an updated CB map that will reflect recent changes.

**Baston Park:** Steve Palmer met with a group regarding the concerns of the dam removal. It was suggested that the removal of the dam would have little impact on our access plan *but more information is needed, especially from the Army Corp of Engineering.*

### **Eleanor Hayes Town Forest:**

#### **Hayes monument**

Steve Palmer advised that Clark inquired about the granite monument at the Eleanor Hayes Town Forest. Do we move the monument and where should it go. Both Scott Kerr and Steve Palmer will talk with Clark and go the Eleanor Hayes Town Forest to discuss the options for where to move the monument

#### **Start Here sign**

Scott Kerr advised that we have yet to receive a bill for the “Start Here Sign”, *Scott will check on where the sign is.*

#### **Trails and Invasives**

Trails and invasives are still a work in progress reported by Scott Kerr.

**Old Town House Park:** Scott Kerr asked the committee if we want to come up with a plan for the removal the poison ivy. *The committee agreed that we should proceed with a plan.*

**Knights Pond:** Bob Abbott advised he will put together a report along with maps and updates for our next meeting August 6th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.

***Submitted by Kim Merrill***