

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**PARKS COMMISSIONERS (VIA ZOOM)**  
**GREAT BARRINGTON, MA 01230**  
**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2020**  
**5:00 PM.**

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitation on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Parks Commissioners will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on town's website, at [www.townofgb.org](http://www.townofgb.org). For this meeting, members of the public who wish to listen to the meeting may do so in the following manner: See instructions at the top of the agenda. No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post on the town's website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.

\*\*\*ALL VOTES ARE ROLL CALL\*\*\*

**PRESENT:**      **Karen Smith, Paul Gibbons, Stephen Bannon, Charles Boutellier, Thomas Norton, Sridevi Reddy, Ilana Siegal, (William Meier, absent)**

1.      **CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.
2.      **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**  
A.      Minutes of October 13, 2020  
**MOTION:**      Tom Norton to approve as written.  
**SECOND:**      Stephen Bannon  
**ROLL CALL VOTE:**      Karen      Yes  
                                         Ilana      Yes  
                                         Paul      Yes  
                                         Tom      Yes  
                                         Charlie      Yes  
                                         Stephen      Yes  
                                         Sridevi      Yes  
**MOTION PASSED**                      **7-0**
3.      **PARKS USAGE REQUESTS:**  
A.      None
4.      **PARKS CARE AND MAINTENANCE:**  
A.      **Updates from Sean VanDeusen, DPW Superintendent** – Sean is on vacation. He will give an update at the December meeting.
5.      **NEW BUSINESS:**  
A.      **Policies and Procedures re: COVID 19 Situation** – changing constantly.  
         Karen noted she had a request from a student from Monument Mountain Regional High School to use the Housy Dome for Basketball practice. Patrick Hanavan has decided to discontinue basketball at the Housy Dome. Karen noted that the MIAA is not allowing basketball because it is a contact sport. Amanda noted that basketball is limited to drills only. The basketball nets at Memorial Field will be removed.  
**MOTION:**      Paul Gibbons that the basketball hoops at Memorial Field be rendered unusable.  
**SECOND:**      Stephen Bannon  
**ROLL CALL VOTE:**      Ilana                      No  
                                         Sridevi                      Yes  
                                         Tom                      Yes  
                                         Karen                      Yes  
                                         Paul                      Yes  
                                         Charlie                      No  
                                         Stephen                      Yes  
**MOTION PASSED**                      **5-2**

- B. 1 vacancy for Parks Commissioner – Still have one vacancy
- C. Memorandum of Understanding – Housatonic Community Center – The only people using the Housy Dome now is the yoga people.
- D. Paddle Board Policies – Table for over the winter.
- E. Storage at Olympian Meadows – A 20' container was put at Olympian Meadows next to the snack shack by Berkshire Youth Football. Lauren Hyde supposedly facilitated this. Wilkinson donated it. There are two sheds now – one belongs to softball and one belongs to Little League. The Little League shed has been stripped down with new hooks installed and a new door has been installed. It was decided that the shed should be moved next to the Little League shed so it is out of the way. Paul was concerned about liability as the town doesn't own the shed. Karen said she would research this and report next month.

6. **OLD BUSINESS:**

- A. Status of Sign for Dewey Park and Bench for Dewey Park – the signs are done. The Benches will be discussed next month.
- B. Tighe & Bond Park Inventory, Needs Assessment, and Mapping – Should be ready for the December meeting.
- C. Berkshire South –Berkshire South will return in March 2021.
- D. Railroad Street Youth Project Report – Regina will have a report in December. Regina said she would like to propose a skating rink at Memorial Field. Charlie and Karen advised of their experience in attempting to do a skating rink in the past.
- E. Ball field update all 4 – Paul and Sean – Olympian Meadows & Memorial Field – update at December meeting.
- F. Town Building Use Procedures – Moot point as applicants will have to come before the commissioners with a Parks Usage Request Form.

7. **CITIZENS SPEAK:**

Chair will recognize individuals at this time who wish to speak

8. **COMMISSIONERS SPEAK:**

Tom commented about the bike trail part of the old railroad by the cemetery and home gas. People are putting tape around and walking their dogs by the cemetery. Karen noted we need to designate if it is Town land, cemetery property or otherwise.

9. **NEXT MEETING**

Next Meeting is Monday, December 14, 2020

10. **ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:** Paul Gibbons to adjourn.

**SECOND:** Stephen Bannon

**ROLL CALL VOTE:**

Tom	Yes
Ilana	Yes
Paul	Yes
Charlie	Yes
Sridevi	Yes
Karen	Yes
Stephen	Yes

**MOTION PASSED 7-0**

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Wichmann  
Recording Secretary