

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**PARKS COMMISSIONERS (HYBRID AND VIA ZOOM)**  
**SELECTBOARD'S MEETING ROOM**  
**334 MAIN STREET, GREAT BARRINGTON, MA**  
**MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2023**

**5:15 PM.**

**PRESENT:** KAREN SMITH, ILANA SIEGAL, WILLIAM MEIER, TERRANCE CHAMBERLAND, STEPHEN BANNON, JULIE ANIDJAR, TOM NORTON  
(SRIDEVI REDDY AND PAUL GIBBONS WERE NOT PRESENT)

**1. CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 5:16 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A. Minutes of November 13, 2023 (Discussion/Roll Call Vote)

**MOTION:** Tom Norton to approve.

**SECOND:** Ilana Siegal

**VOTE:** 6-0

Terry wasn't present at the time of the vote.

**3. PARKS USAGE REQUEST:**

A. None

**4. PARKS CARE AND MAINTENANCE:**

A. **(The sound at the beginning of this part of the meeting was not audible).**

Joe Aberdale – Joe said he has asked for schematics from Tighe and Bond as to how to get the soccer field in at Olympian Meadows. The soccer field and the Skate Park, will be on the January agenda.

Karen noted that the plans for the skate park need to be updated.

B. Grove Street Park – Discuss and vote on proceeding with CPA Step 2 application for \$95,000.  
(Discussion/Roll Call Vote) Joe said he put two applications in. 1 for Grove Street and 1 for a pickle ball court at Dewey. (Nothing was submitted for Dewey) It was noted that Grove Street was only left in after Step 1. The overall project is \$280,000. Does the Commission want to move forward with Step 2?

**MOTION:** Ilana to go forward with Step 2 of the CPA Application.

**SECOND:** Terry Chamberland

<b><u>ROLL CALL VOTE:</u></b>	Karen Smith	Yes
	Ilana Siegal	Yes
	William Meier	Yes
	Terry Chamberland	Yes
	Stephen Bannon	Yes
	Julie Anidjar	Yes
	Tom Norton	Yes

**MOTION PASSED** **7-0**

**5. OLD BUSINESS:**

**6. NEW BUSINESS:**

A. CPC Pickle Ball – not submitting to CPA for Dewey.

B. Brandee Nelson - Master Plan Status Discussion – She noted that the planning board is looking into what has been accomplished in the master plan by all committees. She said boards

and committees should look into where they would like to be in the next 10 years. One item was to put benches at the parks, signs and ways to make multigenerational parks which is ongoing. Also to put up signs and to let people know where resource areas are and to partner with Great Barrington Trails in regard to resources. It was noted that the trails are listed on the website. Karen suggested meeting again in late spring for further discussion.

C. Create a subcommittee job description of Park and Recreation Position. Karen said there needs to be a subcommittee to review everything that was said. We need to contact other towns that are similar in size to Great Barrington in regard to recreation. The problem is limited assets in regard to hiring a full time person. The subcommittee needs to study the need for a Park and Recreation position. The committee needs to be a minimum of 2 or 3. Ilana said that 3 members of the commission could meet 1 hour a month to review the need for the new position.

**MOTION:** Karen to form a subcommittee to look at a position of Parks and Recreation that will consist of a 3 person subcommittee of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Bill Meier, Julie Anidjar and Ilana Siegal will be on the subcommittee.

**SECOND:** Bill Meier

<b>ROLL CALL VOTE:</b>	Karen Smith	Yes
	Ilana Siegal	Yes
	William Meier	Yes
	Terry Chamberland	Yes
	Stephen Bannon	Yes
	Julie Anidjar	Yes
	Tom Norton	Yes

**MOTION PASSED** **7-0**

7. **CITIZENS SPEAK:**

8. **COMMISSIONER SPEAK:**

Bill Meier asked if a response had been received in response to his letter to the Conservation Commission regarding the weeds at Lake Mansfield. There has been no response.

9. **PROPOSED MEETING DATES FOR 2024**

**January 16 third Tuesday**

February 5 first Monday \*\*\*\*\*

March 18 third Monday

April 1 first Monday \*\*\*\*\*

May 13 second Monday

June 17 third Monday

July 15 third Monday

August 19 third Monday

September 16 third Monday

October 22, third Tuesday

November 19 third Tuesday

December 9 second Monday

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

*Carolyn Wichmann*

Carolyn Wichmann, Recording Clerk