The Town of Great Barrington

Parks and Recreation Commission

Policies and Procedures

Final voted 7/10/2017

Mission:

The Great Barrington Parks and Recreation Commission is committed to enhancing the quality of life in Town by providing recreational opportunities for the community in Town owned parks and ensuring that our parklands, playgrounds and facilities are safe, clean and available for use. The Commission is a board responsible for maintaining, enhancing, improving existing parks; advising on design of new parks and developing parkland programs to serve residents of all ages as well as operating and capital budget planning and oversight.

Action steps:

- Create partnerships and solicit community input for the development of park programs.
- Coordinate with the DPW and Town Planner on planning, budgeting, and implementing capital projects.

Appointment of Members:

- Nine members each serving a three-year term, staggered so that one third of the commission cycles out each year.
- Public notice will be made for all commission openings.
- Letters of interest shall be submitted to the Selectboard Office for registration, which will then be shared with the Parks and Recreation Commission for consideration.
- The Parks and Recreation Commission will interview candidates for evaluation and subsequently make recommendation to Town Manager for appointment.
- The Chair and Vice Chair shall be elected annually during the first meeting following the first Selectboard meeting in June.
- Meetings are held on the second Monday of every month at 5 pm in the Mason Library.
- There may be, at the discretion of the Commission, ad hoc or permanent committees set up to study a particular issue and or situation.

Programming:

- The Parks and Recreation Commission oversees programing for the parks and solicits input from the community.
- Parks and Recreation will advise the Town on programs, activities, and resources to provide recreational programs.
- All concerns and citizen input should be directed to the Chair or Vice Chair for consideration by the full commission.
- Agenda will be developed by the Chair and or/ Vice Chair.

Budgeting:

- Annual budget priorities for operation will be established by the Parks and Recreation Commission.
- Parks and Recreation will provide advice on operating budget priorities and review the parks annual budget starting in early fall of each year.

Capital Projects:

- Parks and Recreation, along with public input, will advise on capital projects. The Town Planner and DPW Superintendent will oversee these projects.
- All procurement is to be managed and directed by the DPW Superintendent for the Town Manager and will adhere to Mass General Law. The DPW Superintendent will seek advice from the Parks and Recreation Commission. For large projects, members shall serve on the Selection Committee.

Overview: Repairs and maintenance/ park improvements, recreational programming, and supplies. The Park and Rec Commission will:

- Oversee regular maintenance at all parks including mowing and waste removal.
- Provide waste receptacles at all parks.
- Oversee the supervision programming and lifeguards at Lake Mansfield, programming at the Memorial Field Skate Park, and Housatonic Playground.
- Oversee the maintenance at all baseball and softball diamonds in cooperation with local baseball and softball organizations e.g. Little League, Babe Ruth League, and Girls softball.
- Provide suitable sanitary facilities as needed at parks and other areas under the control of the Commission.
- Will provide ADA facilities, to feasible extent regulated by law.
- Will provide a forum for public input on the use, care, and development of parks.
- Will provide current guidelines and rules for safe and appropriate park usage.
- Will review the recreational needs at all parks and install and maintain multi-generational equipment for the use of all citizens of the Town.
- Will seek neighborhood involvement in the needs assessment for all parks and develop short and long-term goals for implementing these needs.
- Will assess all facilities and programs on an ongoing basis.
- Will review and maintain all signage and listings of parks and recreation areas.
For more information:

A Park usage form is available on the Town website or for more information, call the Secretary to the Commission. The Commission will consider all requests to use park space at regular meetings.

A List of Parks and Parklands under the supervision of the Great Barrington Parks and Recreation Commission:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Park</th>
<th>Acreage</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Amenities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Castronova Park (GB Bush)</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>Main Street</td>
<td>Walking</td>
<td>Benches, swings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grove Street Park</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>30 Grove Street</td>
<td>Outdoor Recreation</td>
<td>Benches, basketball, swings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John P. Tracy Park</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>Stockbridge Road</td>
<td>Observation</td>
<td>Wetlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Village Common &amp; Playground</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>207 Pleasant Street</td>
<td>Outdoor Recreation</td>
<td>Swings, playground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Mansfield Beach</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>45 Lake Mansfield Road</td>
<td>Beachfront</td>
<td>Swimming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorial Field Park</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>Bridge Street</td>
<td>Outdoor Recreation</td>
<td>Baseball, basketball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Maid's Park</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>31 Wyantenuck Street</td>
<td>Picnicking</td>
<td>Wildlife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olympian Meadows</td>
<td>22.2</td>
<td>Main Street/ Olympian Meadows</td>
<td>Outdoor Recreation</td>
<td>Baseball, sports fields</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park Street Park</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Park Street</td>
<td>Walking</td>
<td>Swings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parrish Park</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>Main Street</td>
<td>Walking</td>
<td>Benches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Street Park</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>South Street</td>
<td>Walking</td>
<td>Fitness Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanley Park</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>Main Street</td>
<td>Walking</td>
<td>Historic markers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Town Hall Park</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>334 Main Street</td>
<td>Outdoor Recreation</td>
<td>Playground, gazebo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weir Park (Belcher Square)</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>Stockbridge Road</td>
<td>Benches</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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</tbody>
</table>