

Town of Georgetown  
Parks and Recreation Commission  
March 13, 2006

Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The Georgetown Parks and Recreation Commission held its re-scheduled regular monthly meeting on March 13, 2006 in the Star Hook and Ladder Building. Chairman Shirley Shimon called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Answering the roll were Shirley Shimon, Elaine Dunn, Kathy Fiebig and Robert Hodge. Elaine McWain and Peter Werlin were absent. Also in attendance was Town Clerk Merinel Williams.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Fiebig moved to approve the minutes of the February 2, 2006 meeting as presented. Mr. Hodge seconded and the motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mr. Hodge moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ms. Fiebig seconded and the motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

AUDIENCE BUSINESS

None.

NEW/UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Rules and Regulations for Lake Area

Ms. Shimon reported that the Town Administrator has confirmed that the cables and posts at the lake will be repaired this summer.

The Commission discussed the list of lake rules that were drafted some years ago. Most of these rules are already included in the Town Code, but others such as the prohibition against swimming and requirement that occupants of non-motorized watercraft wear life vests are not currently in law. The items recommended for posting at the warming hut are advisory to the public, not rules and so could be posted there at any time. The Commission discussed the location, design and materials for signs. Further discussion was continued until the next meeting.

Activity Night

This item was continued until the next meeting due to the absence of Peter Werlin, who is the point person on this project.

Movie Night

Ms. Shimon reported that the cost to rent the Community Center is an affordable \$7.50 per hour. The Commission discussed the major stumbling block to this project, the cost of royalty payments for the movies, and whether there might be alternatives to paying these fees. It was also suggested that this project could be

re-designed to be a game night (board games) instead of a movie night. This item was continued until the next meeting for further discussion.

#### Rules for Multipurpose Court

Ms. Shimon stated that a basic question is whether it's worth adopting rules for the multipurpose court when it is in such bad condition. The gate is off its hinges and laying on the ground. Home-made skateboard structures have been brought onto the court, and there continues to be graffiti on the structures. The Commission confirmed that some of the equipment purchased by the Town has disappeared.

The Commission determined that it is still worthwhile to establish rules for the court. Mr. Hodge moved to recommend adoption of the rules for the multipurpose court as drafted to the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Dunn seconded and the motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Ms. Fiebig offered to contact the Recreation District to check on the District's response to the Commission's requests for repair projects.

#### Tree Ordinance Discussion

The Commission reviewed the sample tree ordinance from Edgewater supplied by the Town Attorney. Ms. Fiebig commented that her informal survey indicates that there are not many town-owned trees remaining in street rights-of-way. Ms. Shimon commented that some of the property owners on Rose Street wish to plant trees between their sidewalk and the street. Ms. Fiebig stated that the Town should control the type and spacing of any trees planted, particularly to make sure they don't grow into power lines. Mr. Hodge pointed out that an ordinance such as Edgewater's would give the Town authority to require property owners to maintain trees on the right-of-way abutting their properties. Following further discussion, the Commission agreed to request comments on a proposed tree ordinance from the Garden Club, and to request further information from the Town Administrator regarding costs and enforcement issues.

#### Discussion on Fallen Tree in City Park

Ms. Shimon suggested that the trunk of the spruce tree that was blown down in City Park, now in three pieces, be cut and split to provide firewood for tree lighting and Christmas Market. Mr. Hodge and Ms. Fiebig noted that Peter Werlin has indicated he plans to make a bench out of the largest piece, and that he has plans for the other two pieces as well. They noted that a bench made from the longest piece would be a very unique amenity in the park.

#### Spring Tree Spraying Discussion

The Commission reviewed the information from Lam Tree Service regarding spraying the spruce trees in City Park this spring. Ms. Shimon stated that Peter Werlin will arrange for the work to be done.

#### Tree Grant Update

The Commission acknowledged that its tree grant application was unsuccessful.

#### Discussion on Date for Annual Clean-up Day

The Commission confirmed the date for the annual Clean-up Day to be the Saturday before Memorial Day weekend as in past years. The bad weather alternate day will be the Saturday following Memorial Day weekend. It was agreed to request that the school conduct a poster design contest for students. Ms. Shimon will contact Nancy Johnson regarding this project. The Commission also supported incentives for children's participation in the event. Last year Coralie Anderson provided treats from her business, and End of the Line and the Georgetown Candy Company provided vouchers for ice cream cones. The Commission will continue discussion of arrangements for Clean-up Day at its next two meetings.

#### Discussion on Hiring Summer Parks Person

Ms. Shimon announced that Joyce Ellingson has indicated a desire to return to the parks maintenance position this summer. The Commission expressed support for this plan in recognition of Ms. Ellingson's good work last summer.

Budget Update

Ms. Shimon announced that the supplier of last year's flower baskets will not be available this year. It was agreed to request that Coralie Anderson research an alternate vendor since her business will provide the baskets at wholesale price.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Shimon adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Shirley Shimon, Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Merinel Williams, Town Clerk