

Sanbornton Town Park Meeting Minutes  
May 11, 2023  
Sanbornton Town Library

Present: Bob Lambert, Selectman; Colleen Longo; Patty Kasparian; Jenn Dykstra; Will Ellis, Planning Board Representative; and Barbara Whetstone, Chair.

A. Minutes of April 13, 2023 were read. Patty moved to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Jenn and approved by all present.

B. Due to some confusion about the role of this committee, Barbara read the mission statement which was originally accepted and approved by the selectmen when first established.. This committee is not a subcommittee of the Recreation Commission. We make our recommendations to the selectmen. Amanda is a member of the committee and reports back to the Recreation Commission as to the progress of this committee. This committee does seek and appreciate input from the Recreation Commission.

C. Town Park Updates:

1. Bob reported the town will have to go out for bids on all work for which we apply for SLFRF funds. Once the ad goes out, the bidding period is 30 days. We do not have to accept the lowest bid. Bob will request Trish to put an ad in the local papers. He recommends the ad be brief, identifying a request for bids to provide a park well sufficient to provide irrigation to the present field and future grassed areas and to include the installation of an irrigation system. We hope this work can be done this summer.

2. Excavation project to level the proposed development area, loam and seeding was discussed. Johnny has trucked in removed gravel from the Knox Mountain Road Project and spread the gravel over the present park area to be developed. This has saved the town thousands of dollars. Once Johnny has finished leveling the area, we will measure the area to be developed and go out for bids to have the area further leveled, loamed and seeded. We will need to put together a project plan showing location of the planned facilities ( pavilion, playing courts, bathroom) including the storage shed, parking and the playground. The committee recommended the present loading ramp concrete blocks be removed to the transfer area. The park or transfer station may want to use them in the future. Patty suggested we meet with Johnny to discuss his responsibilities regarding the development of the park and the berm. We are very grateful for the work Johnny has done.

3. Barbara reported about her May 4th conversation with Scott Auger. Regarding going out for bid, once Johnny had completed his leveling of the gravel, Scott recommended we be detailed and specific in the ad about the work we want done, such as: square yards of 6" of screened loam; square yards of 6" of clean wood chips to cover sandy areas; type of seed to cover a square foot area; location of the parking area and access road.

4. The storage shed materials have been delivered. Amanda is waiting to hear as to when it will be built. The committee has offered to help her move some of the recreation equipment into the new building. Johnny will then move the trailer to the

Transfer Station. Amanda is obtaining quotes for painting the shed. The committee discussed the color of the shed. Amanda would like it painted red thus the committee recommended a cool red would look nice. She will also paint the small shed but leave the baseball dugouts sage green.

5. Berm. Patty talked with Johnny and recommended we have Johnny remove about 150 feet of the berm, dig a trench and fill with organic material. She thinks we can use volunteers to plant and water the berm but we will need to go out to bid for top soil, fertilizer, bushes and trees. Bob suggested we include greenery for other areas of the park.

6. The committee decided to wait to go out to bid for the pavilion and playing courts until we know how much SLFRF money remains after paying for the well, irrigation system and excavation project. We will need to apply for other grants.

C. Colleen shared information about the NH Community Center Investment Program Grant. 15% matching funds can come from the SLFRF funds. A town vote is necessary to accept the funds. There is an option of using the forgivable loan program.

D. Old Home Day. The committee plans to have a booth at Old Home Day to advertise the park. Coozies will be given out with water bottles. Colleen will secure a booth space through the Old Home Day committee. We will have an information sheet about the park plans and survey forms asking residents to give their name and email if interested in volunteering and to inquire as to the desire for facilities at the park (pavilion, playing courts and bathroom). The survey information will be needed when applying for grants to identify community needs and wants. We may also have a donation jar for money to go to the identified facilities. Colleen and Amanda are doing the planning for the booth.

E. Barbara requested committee members read about the SLFRF grant guidelines prior to the next meeting so we can identify the information needed in order to get the funds approved. She also asked the committee to think about a facility and parking placement plan once we know the available square yardage which can be utilized.

F. Next meeting: June 8th, Sanbornton Town Library, 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Wright Whetstone, Chair