



# Rockport Parks and Beautification Committee

207-236-9648 101 Main Street Rockport, Maine 04856

## Minutes March 19, 2024 Rockport Public Library - 3:00 PM

<b>Members Present</b>	Doug Cole (co-chair); Paula Coyne (co-chair), Sally Cook, Eric Winters, Ali Angell, Lee Goss and Marilyn McWilliams	
<b>Members Absent</b>	William Frolich	
<b>Liaisons Present</b>	Denise Kennedy Munger (Select Board) and Mike Young (DPW)	
<b>Liaisons Absent</b>		
<b>Guests</b>	Abbie Leonard, Harbor Master, and Kristin Johns, Rockport resident	

<b>Agenda topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
<b>1. Minutes</b>	Sally moved that the Minutes of the 1/17/24 meeting be approved. Paula seconded.	Minutes approved.

<p><b>2. Kayak Policy</b></p>	<p><u>Abbie</u> reported she has sent out the bills for the 2024 season, as well as reiterating the kayak rack rental timeframe is from May 1 to November 15. She also advised renters that they need to obtain a sticker for the kayak from the Town Office, and affix it to their kayak. <u>Kristin</u> is a year round kayaker and explained her difficulty with not being able to keep it on the rack year round.</p> <p><u>Denise</u> explained the Select Board believes that the danger is too great to allow year round use, as the weather can quickly change and Rockport does not have winter rescue capabilities. The Select Board agreed to defer to Abbie’s policy.</p> <p><u>Paula</u> let us know she spoke to Harbor Masters in Belfast, Camden and Rockland. Both Belfast and Camden’s policies are the same or very similar to ours, with Camden’s 5/1/-10/31 rack rental time period being shorter than ours. Rockland highly discourages winter usage of kayaks, admitting they do have the Coast Guard near by.</p>	
<p><b>3. Commercial Use policy update</b></p>	<p>Abbie reminded us that 2023 art classes, exercise classes, the one food truck, and kayak excursions are grandfathered as users, but they still need to obtain peddler permits.</p>	<p><b><u>Denise and Abbie:</u></b> will talk to the Town Hall about the cost of a peddler permit, and make recommendation s re: amount(s) and the wording on the Town website.</p>
<p><b>4. Parks’ Calendar</b></p>	<p>Paula distributed by email in advance of meeting. We then set the first two work days.</p>	<p><b><u>All members:</u></b> attend the work day on <b><u>Sat., 4/6</u></b>, starting at 11:00 am to clean up at Harbor Park and Goodie’s Beach. The next work day will be <b><u>Sunday, 5/5</u></b> at Memorial Park.</p>

<p><b>4. Parks Review</b></p>	<p><u>Doug</u> spoke to Glen and the walkway at the Harbor will be installed.</p> <p><u>Mike</u> advised our two new benches came in to DPW and have been assembled.</p> <p><u>Eric</u> asked Mike about the stage at Mary Lea, as it currently is a safety hazard.</p> <p>We have three items to be stained: Walker Park sign, and fences at Mary Lea Park, and by the library stream.</p> <p>Memorial Park: we should plant something behind the memorial as it is currently bare. We discussed the possibility of moving the Euonymus from its current location in Memorial Park to behind the memorial, and planting a new azalea where the Euonymus is currently planted.</p>	<p><b><u>Mike:</u></b> will have the 2 new benches installed in the penalty box at Mary Lea and on an existing slab in Harbor Park.</p> <p><b><u>Mike:</u></b> will talk to Glen 3/20 about fixing the stage.</p>
<p><b>5. New Business</b></p>	<p>Rockport street clean up. Paula asked us all to agree to keep same assignments as last year, and we all agreed. She had gloves and plastic bags available.</p>	<p><b><u>Paula, Denise, Eric, Lee, Marilyn:</u></b> will all complete street clean ups between now and mid-May.</p>

<p><b>6. Walker Park Equipment Review</b></p>	<p><u>Eric</u> reviewed his very comprehensive report that he had emailed to us earlier in the day. He also had given Jon Duke a copy of the report.</p>	<p><u>Mike</u>: will remove the chain ladder from the play equipment, and pressure wash the entire playset.  <u>Eric</u>: will contact the manufacturer re playset age, lifetime expectancy potential replacement parts, and warranty info. He will also look into the potential head and neck entrapment mentioned by the insurance company. Lastly, he will obtain a quote for comparable equipment for future reference.</p>
	<p>Adjourned at 4:15.  <u>Next events:</u>  <u>Workday</u>: Sat., 4/6, 11 AM, Harbor Park  <u>Next meeting</u>: Tuesday, April 16, at 3:00 PM at the Town Library.  <u>Workday</u>: Sun., 5/5, Memorial Park  Respectfully submitted: <i>Marilyn McWilliams</i>, secretary</p>	