



Rockport Parks and Beautification

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

July 21, 2021 - 5:00 P.M. – In person

In attendance: Haunani Wallace, Jan Baldwin, Sue Kauck, Sally Cook, Eric Winters, Denise Munger, Lea Anne Dunton, Mike Young, Paula Coyne, Marilyn McWilliams, Bill Frolich, Sandy Hurlbut, and Doug Cole by phone. Guests: Jon Duke and Sani Fogel.

MINUTES:

Approval of Minutes

Haunani moved that the minutes of the June 9, 2021 meeting be approved with the corrections given by Paula. Jan seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Restructuring of Committee

Volunteers for Board positions were: Haunani will remain as Chair for one more year, Doug will serve as Vice-Chair, and Jan will serve as Secretary. Sally moved that these people be approved for their various positions, Jan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

DPW Updates

Walker Park – Sani Fogel expressed the concern of the neighbors near Walker Park about the orange sign (for Carry In/Carry Out) and that the trash can had been removed. A request was also made for a “dog station”, possibly up by the road. Bill requested that better playground equipment be installed. Eric said that a design has been done for new equipment, but it needs funding. Mike stated that the Parks Committee is looking at putting a reserve together because of the high cost of new equipment and Haunani added that the committee’s 5 year plan shows \$12K budgeted for each of the next 4 years for a total of the \$48K needed. Jon thanked the group for the input and said that this topic will be discussed by the town further. The committee recommended that Bill write an newsletter/newspaper article requesting Rockport parents provide input and fundraising efforts for new equipment.

Goodridge Park

Sally requested a trash can be placed in the park and Mike agreed to provide one – in follow up discussion, it was decided not to place one there, if there is trash being left behind by customers of Nina June, Sarah Jenkins will put out a trash can.

Memorial Park

Haunani requested a trash can be placed in that park also and Mike agreed to that one as well, discussion ensued, decision was made not to put a trash can – since the dog can is there.

High Sidewalk

Mike is waiting for Farley to give him a quote for weeding it. To be continued.....

Chain of Command

Doug provided a reminder that requests for DPW tasks, requests for outside contractors, and charges to town accounts must go through the town manager. The time between when Bill Post left and Jon Duke took over was a unique period. We were rushing to get the landscaping finished so the rules were bent with some oversight by selectperson Munger. Now that this crazy time is over we need to get back to the mundane procedures.--

Update on Library Landscaping

Denise reported that the landscaping is almost done. Sod will be installed on the lower level within a week. Sarah Rheault is donating a Japanese dogwood. The committee briefly toured the garden areas and made location decisions for the remaining plants to be installed.

Update on Memorial Park

The committee agreed to have Mike provide lattice boards to be installed by Terry Hurlbut around the meter/electrical box and Sue will provide climbing vines for it. Sue had also found a Balsam to replace the one that had been removed and Tom Jackson will be contacted about planting it.

Concerts In The Park

Doug reported that turnout has been great. He also said that Chris Tofani has asked if concerts can continue through the second Sunday in September. The committee OK'ed this and will ask the Select Board for approval. Eric recommended that we do more advertising on social media for our events and the committee concurred.

New Business

Haunani asked if DPW could devote ½ day per week on parks work? Jon responded that DPW is currently understaffed but this request will be considered next spring.

Legacy Benches

Haunani asked the committee members to give some thought to the following:

Changing the cost from \$5,000/10 yrs to \$5,000/forever

Possibly cap the total number of benches

Advertising: social media? funeral homes? other?

Adjournment

The committee agreed to adjourn at 6pm.

Next Meeting

The next scheduled meeting will be Wed., Aug 18, 2021 at 5:00pm at Rockport Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Hurlbut with assistance from Jan Baldwin