



Rockport Parks and Beautification Committee

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

Minutes August 18, 2021 Rockport Public Library-5:00 P.M.

In attendance: Doug Cole, Paula Coyne, Susan Kauck, Marilyn MacWilliams, and Jan Baldwin.

MINUTES:

Susan moved that the minutes of the July 21, 2021 meeting be approved with a slight correction to the time of adjournment.

RECOMMENDATION OF MORATORIUM

Doug suggested we recommend to the Select Board that there be a moratorium on acceptance of gifts of trees, tribute trees and shrubs in order for us to have time to develop a policy re these gifts. This does not include gifts for the Legacy Bench program, requests from the Parks committee or donations to Reserve Fund. We need to have a better plan with priorities and ways to promote the program. Jan moved to make this recommendation to the Select Board. Susan seconded. Vote was unanimous.

BUNTINGS

The committee did not support the idea of buntings for the lamp posts.

REMOVAL/RETIRING OF OLD BENCHES

Doug brought up the question of how to handle old, damaged or non-conforming tribute benches, particularly those donated by people who no longer have a connection to Rockport. Should there be a time limit on these benches when donated? The committee is encouraged to come up with ideas on a policy for these old benches and for all benches moving forward. Paula suggested using the SWOT form to voice ideas. This discussion was tabled until the September meeting.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Doug reported that plants are doing very well. We hope for more participants in future years.

MEMORIAL PARK/LIBRARY WATERING SCHEDULE/and BENCHES

Right now there is not a good and reliable watering system. Paula offered to type up the schedule of tasks and who is responsible. There are currently 5 benches in Memorial Park. Majority felt we don't need more at this time, but eventually we will replace the 2 non-conforming ones. There are no new contributors at the moment.

DPW REPORT

Since Mike was not in attendance, we will wait for September meeting for update.

MARY LEA PARK CONCERTS

Doug reported that the concerts have been popular and well attended. The Opera House is hiring a new marketing person who wants to collaborate with our committee. We will work with her, but will continue to be in charge of the events.

PARKS BROCHURE

No one knew how well distributed the brochures are. Susan will check with Diane Hamilton on the distribution and locations of the brochures.

HOMEWORK

SWOT forms need to be filled out for three parks...Mary Lea, Goodridge and Walker. Please do so for September meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

- Jan asked what additional work will be done on the stony slope near the Young's house. Linda Lescher wants to contribute funds for such a project. The town is working with Terry DeWan and Farley's on a plan. The final plan must be approved by Linda Lescher.
- Doug is considering a gift to the town next year for maintenance of Memorial Park and the library. This would require committee approval.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm.

NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2021 at 5:00 pm at Rockport Library.

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Baldwin,