

# Lamoine Parks Commission

## Meeting Minutes – January 22, 2018 (Final Draft – subject to correction)

Park Commission Chairman Cathi Goebel called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**Present:** Parks Commission members Cathi Goebel, Doug Jones, Jeff Cosulich, Maggie Andros and Georgiana Pulver (alternate). Town resident Jim Norris.

### Minutes of October 2, 2017 Meeting

The minutes of the October 2, 2017 meeting were approved as written. Doug proposed and Jeff seconded a motion to accept the minutes as written. **Vote in favor was 5 to 0.**

### Business

**1) Lamoine Beach Park 1/2 Marathon Race Permit Application:** A permit application for a 1/2 Marathon race at Lamoine Beach Park in March was approved by the commission.

Doug noted that these applications had previously been approved by e-mail and did not need to come before the commission at their quarterly meetings. The commission agreed that e-mail approval of these applications would continue.

It was also noted that the application was on the old style form that has since been replaced by the 02/15/2016 version. The new version only requires the signature of the commission chairman after approval by the commission members. Cathi stated that she would check with Stu Marckoon to see if the new form is on the town website. (Note: Doug checked the website after the meeting and found that the new version of the form is on the website.)

**2) Marlboro Beach Park Status:** Cathi stated that the purchase of the land for the extension of Marlboro Beach Park has been completed. The commissioners agreed to purchase and set out a garbage can at the park this coming spring. It was noted that while the commission does not provide year-round trash pickup at any of the parks, the dog waste stations continue to accumulate waste. Cathi stated that she would discuss this with Stu and request that Facilities Maintenance Director Rick Gallegos periodically pick up this waste throughout the winter months.

Town resident Jim Norris, whose family sold the property to the town, made two requests of the commission. First, Jim has a granite bench and plaque that he would like to place at the park in memory of his mother. The commissioners agreed to find a location for the bench at the park.

Secondly, Jim has a concern about vehicles driving along the upper grade line of the beach, located along the water side of the property. He asked the commissioners to find a way to prevent destructive vehicle access in this area, without totally limiting access to the beach. Jim stated that in selling the land to the town, it was the family's intention that the property continue

to provide open access to the water for multiple activities and uses. Jim encouraged the commissioners to seek out grants and advice from organizations such as the Frenchman Bay Conservancy, the Friends of Frenchman Bay and the Maine Island Trail Association for these purposes.

The commissioners agreed to make a site visit of the property to consider this issue and to look at future development possibilities for the park. This visit will occur during the commission's next regularly scheduled meeting.

**3) Proposed Pinkham Park Status:** Cathi presented a memo from Stu to the commission concerning the proposed construction budget for the future park. Stu stated in the memo that the town has not yet acquired the property. He also noted that one of the selectmen questioned whether it would be appropriate to include funding for this park in the upcoming commission budget since the property is not yet owned by the town. The commission agreed with Stu's proposal to remove the budget request from the upcoming budget submission and request the funding at the special town meeting in which the town will be asked to accept the land donation for the park. Cathi will communicate this to Stu.

**4) Bloomfield Park:** Cathi stated that photos on the trail camera have not been downloaded for a few months. She will get with Rick to retrieve the images and will review them with Jeff. Georgiana wondered if the camera batteries survived the recent extended cold spell. Cathi stated that the batteries had been changed the last time the camera photos were retrieved. Doug noted that lithium batteries would be the best choice to use in the camera since they last longer and are not as affected by cold weather as alkaline batteries.

The commissioners decided that for this coming year there were no additional maintenance needs for the park beyond the usual trash pickup. It was decided to set a date at the next commission meeting for the annual park spring clean-up.

**5) Running Water Request for Bloomfield Park and Lamoine Beach Park:** Cathi noted that a request had been made by the town budget committee through Stu to look at the possibility of having running water at Bloomfield and Lamoine Beach Parks. Jeff stated that it would have been useful to know what the impetus for this request was and what exactly the budget committee envisioned in regards to it.

Doug noted that to supply running water at any of the parks would be a major undertaking. It would require the drilling of a well, installation of electricity to run the water pump and the construction of a secure building to house the water tank and electrical panel. Gray water disposal, probably a septic system, would also be needed since the current toilet vaults are not designed to hold both gray water and black water (solid) wastes. The system would also need to be protected from freezing. Additionally, as a public water supply, the system would come under both state and federal drinking water regulation. The town would be classified as a "Very Small Water Operator" by the state. This would require a state certified water operator to oversee the system and require periodic testing of the water. Doug also stated that he believes the existing well and hand pump at Lamoine Beach Park was abandoned several years ago because of these state regulations. If this well was used again, the town would have to follow those regulations. He also wondered if the existing well could provide drinkable water due to its proximity to saltwater. Jeff noted that the cost of installation and on-going maintenance of these systems would be significant.

This request lead to a more basic discussion on the rural nature of the town and what type of park experience does the commission want to provide to park users. It was decided that the services provided at the parks should reflect the rural and rustic character of the town and that running water was beyond that level of service. Cathi proposed and Maggie seconded a motion to oppose the installation of running water in the parks. **Vote in favor was 5 to 0.**

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Lamoine Parks Commission will be on Saturday, April 14, 2018 at 10:00 am. The meeting will begin at Marlboro Beach Park and then move to the Lamoine Town Hall.

There being no further business, Cathi proposed and Doug seconded a motion to adjourn. **Vote in favor was 5 to 0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas C. Jones  
Secretary, Lamoine Parks Commission