

Approved: May 22, 2018

**TOWN OF GIBRALTAR  
PARKS AND LANDS COMMITTEE  
TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2018 MINUTES  
8:00 A.M.**

**Call to Order:** Hackbarth called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

**Members Present:** Hackbarth stated that a quorum of the committee was present. Members present: Brian Hackbarth, Laurie Buske, Dwayne Daubner, Karl Stubenvoll and Bonnie Ansley  
Absent: None

**Proper Notice/Adopt Agenda:** Hackbarth verified the agenda had been properly noticed.

*Motion: (Daubner, Buske) to adopt the agenda as posted. Carried.*

**Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting(s):** *Motion: (Daubner, Stubenvoll) to approve the minutes from the February 27, 2018 meeting as written. Carried.*

*Motion: (Daubner, Ansley) to approve the minutes from the March 22, 2018 meeting as written. Carried.*

**Public Comment:** Jacqueline Soukup expressed support for the work being done at the beach.

**Committee Reports**

**Chair:** Hackbarth reported the Parks Committee had a joint meeting with the Plan Commission. Parks & Lands will be taking the lead on invasive species. Merline stated Parks and Lands will also be working on a plan to replace the dying ash trees in Fish Creek Park.

**Gardens:** Buske reported the recent snow fall has put opening of the gardens behind schedule

**Invasive Species:** Ansley reported that the property is snow covered. Hoping the snow melts before next Saturday for the Invasive Species event. Jackson Parr from the Pulse will be covering. It was suggested to post to the Town website that the event will still happen despite the snow.

Angela Sherman applauded the efforts and met with Hagenow last year to help tackle invasives on her property and the neighboring Airport property. Ansley stated a GPS app helps pinpoint locations of invasive species.

Andrea Jauquet suggested informing the Airport Commission of the invasive species on the property. Buske clarified that Junipers are not considered invasive.

**Lighthouse:** Timeline for opening and closing to be determined based on weather. The Land Trust received a grant for continued efforts on Phragmites control. Russ and Debbie Feier have spearheaded those efforts.

**Tree Planting Sunset Park:** Buske stated the park is still frozen and muddy. She has been researching sites that sell native trees. She suggested setting up an account with Evergreen Nursery to obtain seedlings and bare roots. Watering will be the biggest challenge for Sunset. David Lea suggested Alder Trees as they provide nutrients to the soil. Jayson Merkel asked about the Town Plan for the walking path. Buske stated the ideal time to plant is spring or fall. Need to place an order before the stock has been depleted.

**Lawn Care Maintenance:** Buske and Ansley have been working on deciphering the lawn care proposals. Ansley suggested cutting down on the chemical applications. Dandelions are a sign of a lawn that is not being treated and welcomed by visitors. EZ Green and ProLawn do not have a chemical free option. Buske stated in the past the lawns were treated 4 times a year. A more natural approach has been attempted with less treatments. Spruce Park has been our trial park. Last year's final treatment was an organic option.

Approved: May 22, 2018

Buske attended a turf management class. It was suggested to fertilize in Spring and Fall and treat weeds as needed.

Merline addressed the need for clean water and protection of the children playing in the lawns.

Ansley suggested eliminating the EZ Green and ProLawn proposals, as the only option with them is to cut back on treatments.

Lakeshore Landscaping offers several levels of natural lawn care with compost tea. Buske stated the Lakeshore proposal is an organic option for overfeeding.

TrueGreen Natural only applies nitrogen and potassium. The phosphorous applied is Potash. All the nitrogen comes from natural sources. They would spot treat for weeds as needed.

Sherman suggested keeping the new beach natural.

It was also suggested to advertise the natural lawn care approaches.

David Lea suggested compost and a SafeLawns approach to build up the humous.

Ansley suggested having Lakeshore treat the beach. But it was discussed that this year wouldn't be the best year as a lot of work will still be happening.

*Motion: (Stubenvoll, Buske) to go with the True Green Natural Lawn Care without treating Ula Street and obtain soil samples. Carried.*

*Amended Motion: (Ansley, Stubenvoll) to have two committee members monitor and determine what weed spot treatments need to be done. Carried.*

**Invasive Species Control Efforts:** Ansley reported she is waiting to meet with Hagenow to discuss Fish Creek Park.

**Playground Equipment at Fish Creek Beach:** Buske suggested meeting with community families for input. The waterview needs to be preserved. The building envelope has already been determined by the State and limits the buildable area of the playground.

**Landscaping Proposals Noble Square Park:** Buske reported the soil in Noble Square park has a rough area where trees may have been removed. Would like to level that area for safety.

*Motion: (Stubenvoll, Buske) to accept the proposal from Four Seasons Maintenance. Carried. Daubner Abstained.*

**Lighthouse Tower Repair Estimate:** The Building Committee forwarded an estimate from Biwer Welding to repair the top of the lighthouse tower.

*Motion: (Buske, Ansley) to accept the bid for the lighthouse tower repair with the maintenance crew doing the installation. Carried*

**Next Meeting Date:** Tuesday, May 15, 2018 at 8:00 AM

**Adjourn:** *Motion: (Buske, Ansley) to adjourn at 9:14 AM. Carried*

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelly Murre  
Deputy Clerk