

**TOWN OF GIBRALTAR
PARKS AND LANDS COMMITTEE
GIBRALTAR TOWN CENTER
TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2024
MINUTES**

Approved: August 20, 2024

Call to Order: Chair Buske called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Members Present: Buske stated that a quorum of the committee was present. Laurie Buske, John Lancaster (excused at 8:43 a.m.), Andrea Kinsey-Jauquet, Patty Dixon and Jayson Merkel.
Also Present: Administrator Travis Thyssen.

Proper Notice/Adopt Agenda: Buske confirmed the agenda had been properly noticed. *Motion: (Merkel/Lancaster) to adopt the agenda as posted. Carried.*

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting(s): At the June 18, 2024 meeting the April 23, 2024 minutes were amended to reflect the approval of purchase of mutt mitts. After meeting Clerk noted mutt mitt purchase was approved at March 19, 2024 meeting. April 23, 2024 minutes as originally written were re-presented at July 16, 2024 meeting. *Motion: (Buske/Merkel) to approve April 23, 2024 minutes as originally written. Carried. Motion (Merkel/Lancaster) to approve minutes of June 18, 2024 meeting with changes. Carried.*

Public Comment: None.

Reports:

Invasive Species: Buske reported that she and Dixon removed all remaining Dames Rocket on the east and some on the west side of the Creek and Dixon removed the grapevines resulting in a fairly large pile of removed invasive species.

Gardens: Buske reported a lot of rain brings a lot of insects. Bunnies have also moved in. WPS did a “number” on the gardens in front of the waterfront property and at Sunset Park. Rest of the gardens are blooming nonstop and Shasta Daisies a foot taller than last year.

Chair: Buske reported she is looking into why the beach grass turf has brown and green blades of grass on the same clump and hoping the goose-type clumps start to even out. She also reported there are a lot of plantain growing at the cemetery, which spreads rapidly. May need to treat and agenda for next meeting. Buske also reported she received letter from citizen advising of a solar light for goose control.

Benches: Buske reported there was a request for a bench at the cemetery. Discussions regarding placement under cedar tree near cremation area. Visual of proposed area provided to committee members. *Motion (Merkel/Kinsey-Jauquet) to accept JoDee*

*DeGroot bench donation and trim up cedar tree. Carried. Buske also reported we received a donation for a bench at Clark Park. Three of seven benches have been spoken for. *Motion (Merkel/Lancaster) to accept Campell bench placement at Clark Park. Carried.**

Champagne Rock parking: Thyssen reported during home construction on Cottage Row construction workers utilized parking in front of Champagne Rock and now some cars are parked there often. No signage currently prohibiting parking. Committee members discuss sign and placement. *Motion (Kinsey-Jauquet/Merkel) to have a limited parking sign placed at Champagne Rock. Carried.*

5-year goals: Discussions regarding five-year goals and need to update the list. See attached goal sheet list.

CORP Goals by Park: Buske reported that when reading through the report for State the top 4 survey results are quality of trails, desire to be in a quiet place, good maps and informational signs, and quality of habitat. Buske asked committee members to think about what we want at our parks. See attached CORP goals by park.

Waterfront property: Buske reported the Board has approved some of the recommendations from the joint meeting of the Plan Commission and the Parks and Lands Committee for the waterfront property. Buske suggested getting the cost for a white aluminum fence on east side. Committee members also discussed a name for property. Harborview Park, Waterfront Park and Marina View Park were possible suggestions. Thyssen mentioned the elector meeting of the cottages on August 6. Buske mentioned there are some shrubs she would like saved if cottages are removed.

Fish Creek Park:

Update on purchase: Thyssen reported Town has funds for purchase. All grant money has been secured. The closing process has begun and is postponed until September because one grant needs a review. Buske requested visual of the upper portion for the next meeting for the five acres for other potential purposes for the next meeting.

Connectivity trail update: Buske reported there was a nice newspaper article regarding Gibraltar's part in the connectivity trail. Thyssen stated connecting via Fish Creek Park to get to the top of the bluff makes the most sense from a safety point of view. discussions regarding options for trail, main trail and spurs and access to multiple town locations. Discussions to compete intercept trail for sanity and EMS access. *Motion (Merkel/Dixon) to seek funding to connect Butterfly Trail to intercept trail, leaving Butterfly trail the same. Carried.*

Lighthouse report/visit: Sharon Zellner provided a detailed written report. There were 37 visitors June 18-30 and 106 visitors through July 16, 2024 with positive reviews on grounds and interior. Sharon reported on UW-Stevens Point bird and vegetation study June 25-27 and upcoming CIA meeting and potluck. Still looking for a painter. Our tour of Chambers Island will be on July 25 with the Board.

Administrator Update, Maintenance Concerns: Discussions regarding making Annex bathrooms seasonal when waterfront park and pavilion plan is completed. Buske requesting bathrooms stay open until after the tree lighting event in Noble Square.

Schedule Next Meeting: August 20, 2024 at 8:00 a.m.

Adjourn: *Motion: (Kinsey-Jauquet/Merkel) to adjourn at 9:22 a.m. Carried.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Reetz, Clerk

5 Year Goals			
	Ongoing Goals		
	Tree Evaluation		
	Watch for Invasives Species on Public Property		
	Stone Wall Evaluations		
	Fish Creek Park Reforestration		
	Improve Handicap Accessibility in Town Parks		
2024			
	a Well at Fish Creek Park		
	b Wellness equipment inf Fish Creek Park		
	c Fish Creek Park Water Fountain		
	d. Painting at Chambers Island Lighthouse		
	e.		
2025			
	a. CORP		
	b. Fish Creek Park - Trail Design		
	c. Cage at Clark Park		
	d. Lawn at Waterfront		
	e. Fence at Waterfront Property		
2026			
	a.		
	b.		
	c.		
	d.		

	e.		
2027			
	a.		
	b.		
	c.		
	d.		
2028			
	a.		
	b.		
	c.		
	d.		

Goals by Park	Long Term Goals	Short Term Goals	Goals by Plans (20yr, Ped., Waterfront. Other)	Notes
Fish Creek Beach	ADA Ramp Swimming			
Waterfront Property	Waterview ADA Accessiblity Seating Picnic Gardens, Shrubs, Trees	Walkability Continue Tree Canopy		
Clark Park	Waterview ADA Accessiblity Seating Picnic Gardens, Shrubs, Trees	Continue Tree Canopy		
Old Town Hall	Seating			
Spruce Park	Waterview Seating Picnic Gardens, Shrubs, Trees			
Sunset Park	Walkable Trail Accessibilty Strollers, Walkers Etc. Maintain Stone Wall Waterview Seating Picnic Tree Canopy			
Noble Square	Seating Picnic Gazebo			

Fish Creek Park	Seating			
	Picnic Gazebo Creek Preservation Invasive Species Control			
Champagne Rock	Waterview			
Chambers Island				
Airport/Volleyball				
Founder's Square Pocket Garden				
Town Shop/Fire Depart.				
Welcome Sign				