

**Town of Cape Elizabeth
Fort Williams Advisory Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 15, 2007**

Revision: Approved 4/26/07.

Present: Ellen Nadeau (Vice-chair), Greg Altnauer, Tina Harnden, Maureen McCarthy, Dan Chase (Secretary).

Absent: Chuck Wilson (Chair), Jennifer Duddy.

Staff: Bob Malley

Guests: None

Called to Order: 7:25 PM in the Public Works Building conference room by Ellen Nadeau.

Approval of February 15, 2007 Meeting Minutes & Approval of February 21, 2007 Workshop Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the 02/15/07 meeting were approved as submitted in the first draft. The minutes of the 02/07/07 workshop were approved as submitted in the first draft.

Use Requests – If any

No further use requests have been received. Staff approved the use of the Fort for a change of command ceremony by the Coast Guard. Use requests previously approved by the Commission were approved by the Town Council.

Park Update

Bob reported that:

- Repair work for the stone fireplace and grills in the picnic shelter will be starting next week. It is estimated the repairs will cost \$2800.
- After some research, it does not appear that lighting the flagpole using solar power is viable. Bob is now exploring options for underground service with Central Maine Power. He will try to have lights set around the bottom of the pole flush with the ground surface.
- The old fog horns will be reinstalled near Portland Headlight as an historical exhibit.

Review and follow-up on Feb. Workshop

Maureen passed out copies of the spreadsheet developed at the workshop, which tabulates the members votes on project priorities. Since not many members were able to attend the workshop, the members at this meeting confirmed that the rehabilitation of the bleachers is their top priority. The Commission talked about various visions and options for the project. Greg will research the availability of grants to fund an historically accurate reconstruction. Tina will research the history of the bleachers.

The Commission held a general discussion about the other items on the priority list. Tina asked about the status of the Forestry and Arbor culture Plan. This lead to a general discussion about invasive bittersweet and options for control.

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Dan asked about the possibility of putting additional donation boxes on the short term priority list. He will research designs that would limit the potential for vandalism.

Bob passed out a 1995 draft report of a study of proposed Rest and Concession Facilities in the park. The report was finalized shortly after the draft was issued, but he does not have a copy. He is searching for one, and will distribute it. He also stated that previous efforts had lead the Planning Board at the time to conclude that rest facilities were not a possibility, unless they were connected to public sewer.

Discussion Plan for joint meeting with FWCF

The Commission will discuss the bleachers, and the remainder of the priority list, with the Fort Williams Charitable Foundation at our joint meeting in April. Ellen will contact Chuck about getting information together to give the FWCF in advance of the meeting. She will also contact the FWCF to settle details for the meeting. There was some discussion about holding the meeting on the 4th Thursday, at the FWCF's regular meeting, rather than on our regular meeting date, to avoid school vacation week.

Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is currently scheduled for April 19th , but may be rescheduled as noted above.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Daniel Chase, Secretary