

# Town of Cape Elizabeth

## Fort Williams Advisory Commission

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### Meeting minutes 6/11/2015

#### **Present**

Lise Pratt, Terry Ann Scriven, Mark Russell, Suzanne McGinn, Chris Straw, Joe Kozlowski, Jim Walsh and staff member Bob Malley. Not Present: Chris Corbett

Fort Williams Foundation members Bob Ayotte and Lynn Shaffer

CE citizens present: Elaine Moloney, Deb Cavanaugh, Patricia Franson, Susan Steinman, Lyn Slack and Kathleen Pierce

Lise called the meeting to order at 7 pm

Approval of 5/21/15 minutes on 5-0 vote with one abstention

#### **Citizen Opportunity for Comment**

Speaking for a group of tennis players, Elaine Moloney thanked Bob M for holding a meeting of concerned on previous Friday. While excited for new sport opportunity at the fort, she said a solution to a crowding problem because of pickle ball numbers, should not become a tennis problem. Lack of available courts will continue to be a problem going forward. The current division of time is not an ideal situation and the tennis players are not in agreement with the painting of lines on the courts at this time. "Please address the need for new courts for all". Lise P said that the commission will continue to hear and respond to issues.

#### **Fort Williams Park Foundation up-date and Review**

Bob Ayotte discussed the Summer Solstice project of 6/19 and the Garden Tour of 6/20. He gave brief update of Night at the Light concert on 7/25 and mentioned that the \$250 tickets were not selling as was hoped. Lynn Schaffer discussed Arboretum signage that was to be installed in early July.

#### **Bleacher Project Discussion**

Terry Ann reported on the bleacher subcommittee work and suggestions to the FWAC. Conversations w/ CE resident Peter McFarland re: event types, timing, and sizes of crowds, fees and appropriate possibilities for uses at the fort were helpful in their overall suggestions to the commission. A discussion about Little League use in the park led to a motion to decouple softball field issues (field

location and storage) use from the bleacher project, passing by a 5-1 vote. A motion to “not recommend an enhanced ball field (dugouts and backstop) on the parade ground” passed by a 5-1 vote. Discussion continued over Plan A (Nov 2014, seating along slope) vs. Plan D (most recent subcommittee work, amphitheater seating). There was consensus that revenue from the use of the facility is important and that a more detailed revenue stream projection would be helpful. Evening use of the park was discussed and frequency of use was a concern for some. Jim W reminded all that revenue from use was important to the project over all. The possible use of an event manager was also brought up in discussion. Lise had distributed to members draft copies of materials that would be shared with Town Council members in advance of their workshop on the bleacher project update scheduled for 6/15. Lise asked each member to weigh in with their preference (Plan A or D) so that she could report the current direction of the FWAC to the Town Council. She read comments to the commission from Chris Corbett expressing his preference for Plan A. A poll was taken with those in attendance resulting in a 5-1 favor of Plan D.

### **Park Update**

Bob M said Ship Cove paving will begin next week, and that preparations were being made for Family Fun Day on 6/13. He said he had received 6 emails and one call regarding tennis and pickle ball which brought on a meeting to clear air and resolve issues.

### **Other Business**

#### **Citizen opportunity for Comment**

### **Adjournment**

Lise adjourned meeting at 9pm.