

**Twin Brook Committee Meeting**  
**February 8, 2011**  
**MINUTES**

**Present:**

Tom Haight

John Leavitt

Anne Witte

Kay Fowler

John Eldridge

Chris Bolduc – Staff

Brian Bickford – Staff

## Steve Moriarty – Council

Chairman Tom Haight opened the meeting at 1810 hrs.

Approval of the minutes:

Motion:

Second: John Leavitt

## Parks Infrastructure Update:

Chris Bolduc discussed the learning curve under way for staff juggling the battle between the skiers and the dog walkers. Staff is attempting to rectify the issue of dog walkers using the groomed ski trails by placing more signage and conducting more site visits. This seems to be working because the numbers of complaints are diminishing.

John Eldridge explained the history of the trail grooming by the Coastal Nordic ski club and how the issue of dog walkers has been an ongoing issue for many years, and the primary offenders are non-residents. Staff agreed to be more vigilant of the issues and address them on a case by case basis.

Chris Bolduc discussed the budget process under way and there will be no big changes in the Twin Brook Budget this fiscal year. There will be a Valhalla grounds person transferred to Twin Brooks this year in an effort to stream line the two facilities so they can work together and make both facilities more cost effective.

Chris Bolduc updated the committee on engineering that is currently under way to replace the cement culvert on the wilderness trail. This is just engineering at this point, in hopes funding or a grant will come along in the future.

## Recreation Update:

Brian Bickford gave an update on the recreation department's new online scheduling system which will be on line this spring to schedule buildings for recreation use and will be utilized to schedule fields at Twin Brooks.

Brian brought to the committee a fee schedule spread sheet that he has developed to take a look at current fees for Twin Brook usage as well as projected fees for the future. Brian explained that it was a work in progress and that he was looking for input from the group at this point. Brian gave examples of what the Maine Principals Association charges for participation in sporting events and gave examples of what other facilities are currently charging.

John Leavitt requested information on what we have done in the past by means of charging user groups and stated that he likes what Brian has done, but it concerned that we are not charging enough.

Brian explained that he had entered figures in the spread sheet as place holders and that they were not representative of what he feels should be charged.

Kay Fowler commented that she wants to see private groups pay more for facility usage.

Anne Witte agreed and stated that we need fees for the facility so the Town has the money to maintain the facility correctly and to a higher standard.

John Eldredge felt that we need to find where the "sweet spot" is so groups can afford to use the facility, but we don't want to make the price so low that it encourages more usage.

John Leavitt requested more information before the next meeting so we can see what the break down is and have more accurate figures to go by. He feels the public safety figures are too low.

There was an extensive conversation by the group about parking fees and how that would work or wouldn't work, no real consensus was met.

Steve Moriarty asked to get more figures, by email, out ahead of the next meeting so the group could digest the information and make recommendations. The group agreed, Brian will complete the spread sheet and send it out as soon as he can.

## AGENDA ITEMS:

Town Council Workshop: Tom Haight recommended that the committee delay any workshop with the Town Council regarding rules changes until the issue of the fee schedule is

complete. He did not feel that we should have two separate council workshops with such a light agenda.

Steve Moriarty gave an explanation to the committee about council workshops and how they work. He explained that a council workshop is not required in order to ask the council to accept rule changes at Twin Brooks. The committee can request to be placed on the Council agenda, and a representative can then explain the rule change request and ask for council adoption.

Anne Witte asked if the rules regarding Horse usage at Twin Brooks and the lightning policy should be cleaned up and sent to the committee for review.

John Leavitt felt that the lightning policy, as drafted by Bill Green, had already been approved by the committee but was not sure if the horse issue had been discussed enough.

The committee had a discussion about the horse usage and abuse at Twin Brooks and decided that horses should be banned.

John Leavitt made the motion that the next step should be to draft an amended rule change proposal and send it to the council for comment and or approval, and do it as an agenda item rather than through a workshop.

Steve Moriarty agreed that that would be the best approach.

John Eldridge stated that we should go to the council sooner than later because we are getting into spring and the issues of horses will be here relatively soon.

Tom Haight stated that he and John Leavitt will clean up the wording and send it out to the group for review and a possible email vote on the changes. Tom requested that Chris make arrangements to get on the council agenda. Chris advised the committee that he would get them on to the March 14<sup>th</sup> 2011 council agenda, all agreed.

Other Business:

Tom Haight brought up and all agreed that combining the Twin Brook Committee with the recreation committee was a dead issue.

Kay Fowler brought up that she was approached by the baseball booster group regarding temporary signage on the Greely Road side, and that she agreed to go along with their proposal.

Kay Fowler brought up the issue of the score boards not coming down in the fall and they are supposed to, Chris will look into that for her.

John Leavitt brought up the ongoing issue of the gates not being secured on the Greely road side; Chris will discuss this with the town manager.

Adjourn 2045 hours