**TOWN OF ROWE**
**MINUTES OF MEETING OF PARK COMMISION**
**DECEMBER 6, 2007**

**CALL TO ORDER**: 6:36 PM
**PRESENT**: RUSS JOLLY, CHAIR, EARL CARLOW, HENRY DANDENEAU COMMISSIONERS, SEAN LOOMIS, RANGER
**ABSENT**: None
**AUDIENCE**. Kris Swenson, Laurie Pike, David & Betty Lenth, Mary Jo Phelps, Judy Pierce
**APPROVAL OF MINTES:** Approved minutes of meeting of November 22, 2007

Read and discussed letter from the Assistant District Attorney's office requesting minutes of September 18, 2007.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Steve Crowningshield has not yet started work at Browning Bench Tool Factory
- Bid sheet sent out for larger repairs at browning Bench Tool to: Steve Crowningshield, Larry Dix, Russ Donelson, Chris Morano, Bob Silva. Bids to be in by February 1.
- BBTF building has been cleaned out except for items of value which are under the Selectmen's jurisdiction.
- Wood shed roof not started due to weather.
- Tennis court back board posts are up but no plywood yet.
- Russ reported that he went to the Town hall on Saturday morning (Dec. 1) . The side doors to the Town Hall were unlocked, lights were on and an unsupervised young person was on the computer. The Park Commission had tried to avoid this by not having the exercise room open on Saturday. Laurie Pike reported that the doors were unlocked because of the scheduled exercise make-up class and the doors were left unlocked because everyone didn't arrive at the same time. Laurie also reported that Rick Williams was also in the building. Sean suggested that the door at the top of the stairway between the post office and exercise room be left open so people in the class could come into the exercise room. ~~Russ said he~~ THE COMMITTEE thought this was a good idea.

**PARK RANGERS REPORT: (see attached)**

- ATM approved transfer of the $10,400 in the Municipal Capital Stabilization Fund for tennis court resurfacing. However, the lowest bid for the work is over $12,000. There was discussion about using Park Operation Funds to make up the difference.
- All but one canoe were removed from the rack . Sean removed the remaining boat.
- 8 inches of snow on trails will be required before snow mobiles are allowed to use park trails.
- No progress on removal of beaver damaged tree with the Con Com at this time.
- Earl said he would ask permission of the Selectboard regarding the skating rink at the town common.
- Percy Brown is back and stored for the winter, after minor repairs.
- Commissioners first voted to approve Seans' proposal to hand carve wood signs, 2' by 3', with trail maps. They then rescinded the vote and voted to ask Sean to find out the cost of having commercially made metal or plastic signs, 10" x18", with the same information.
- Sean asked to insulate the shop section of the building with high density insulation because of the amount of propane currently used. The wall between the shop and office is not insulated. Due to fire code requiring fire-rated sheet rock over the insulation, it would be very be expensive. Commissioners voted to have the wall between the office and shop insulated with fiberglass and continue to heat only the office.
- Someone from Heath said he wanted to back county ski and some of the trails have downed trees across them. He would like to cut these trees and move them to the side of the trails. Park Commissioners denied the request. They mentioned that "back country skiing" means skiing around obstacles.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Moved on to budget report and budget proposed by Sean. Commissioners decided to wait until next meeting to go over the budget in detail.
- Reviewed the letter from the Selectboard and the *Draft Community Development Strategy (* copy attached) and voted to approve plan as written with the following revisions: added "Created nature trail maps using GPS mapping technology" and "Structural repairs (o the Browning Bench Tool building) in '07 and '08".

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:39 pm
**The next meeting is scheduled** : December 20, 2007

Respectfully submitted: Earl Carlow Date: 20 DEC 2007
**Approved:**
Russell Jolly, Chair
Earl Carlow, Secretary Earl Carlow
Henry Dandeneau

# PARK RANGER REPORT

**December 6, 2007**

## I. Completed Activities

A. Steve Crowningshield looked at the Browning Bench window sills and doorsills he said it would cost 500.00$ -700.00$, depending on how easy the all the sills come out. He said he will be able to come the first week in December. Steve has not showed up yet and I will call him the start of next week.

B. Tennis Court Back Stop
   1. All 4x4x10 are cemented in and back filled
   2. 2x4x8 are installed
   3. Need to hang plywood (was waiting on the boat to be finished to make one trip to Dover Vermont to get the boat and the galvanized carriage bolts for the back stop.)

C. Advantage Tennis has been contacted about winning the bid for the tennis court repair.

D. All canoes at the resident canoe rack have been removed. There was only one canoe that I had to remove and relocate to the Soule barn. There are 2 notices on the rack letting people know that they are not allowed to store boats there and for the one canoe owner to contact me to arrange a time to pick up there canoe.

E. Browning Bench bid sheets have been sent to Steve Crowningshield, Larry Dix, Russell Donelson, Chris Morano, Carson Ovitt, and Robert Silva. Quotes are due by February 1, 2008.

F. Browning Bench trash removal
   1. Every thing that has no value has been removed and brought to the dump
   2. A list will be made of the remainder things and brought to the selectmen then they will decide on how to dispose of it.

G. All trail closed to snowmobile signs have been hung and are waiting on 8" of a firm snow base to open them.

H. Still no progress on the Birch tree that the beaver chewed by the beach

## II. On going Activities

A. Hanging boundary signs

B. Guide booklet for the Meadow Trail

C. Trail Map

D. Roof on the woodshed

E. FY 2009 budget

F. Ice Skating at the Town Hall
   1. Talked with Dave Oral from the Amherst Parks & Recs Department about making an ice skating rink on the grass.
   2. Things he said.
      1) Clear the area you want to make into a skating rink (he thinks if we pack the snow we would be fine)
      2) Mist the area repetitively every 15min for 4 or 5 nights (there is a self draining water spigot on the south side of the Town Hall that's left on all year long)
      3) Once you have a decent base maintain the rink by clearing the snow and to run the water over it 1-3 times a week.