TOWN OF ROWE
PARK COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MEETING
AUGUST 21, 2008

CALL TO ORDER: 6:37 p.m.
PRESENT: Commissioners Earl Carlow, Russ Jolly, MaryJo Phelps; Ranger Sean Loomis
ABSENT: none
AUDIENCE: Peter Besgen, David & Betty Lenth, Myra Carlow
MINUTES: Read and approved minutes of July 24, 2008 meeting

OLD BUSINESS:

- Russ Jolly reported that in 10/21/99 a ten-year right of way across the John Williams land (now owned by Rob Williams) was entered into by the Board of Selectmen. It stated that the land owner is not responsible for injury to the public; the town picks up the liability. Russ reported that he recommended to the Board of Selectmen that the right of way should be granted to the Park Commission before they send park people in to do maintenance on this land. He also said that the Park Commission needs to approach the Rowe Conference Center to see if they will enter into agreement with the town for passage on their trails. Russ will contact Rob Williams and the Conference Center to see if they will enter into agreement with the Park so the Park can maintain their trails.
- The potential sale of the Knobloch land was discussed at length. MaryJo urged the purchase of the land to keep it under town control and to prevent future development. Earl and Russ were reluctant to spend $125,000 to buy this land until it was known what Yankee Atomic was planning to do with their land. They were concerned that the town would spend money on the Knobloch land and not have funds to purchase the much larger, and more important, Yankee land.
    - Russ also described the efforts to get funding to purchase a larger parcel, including this parcel, about eight years ago. The Park Commission secured a $50,000 grant to go towards the purchase but the town voted it down in town meeting.
    - MaryJo agreed to do some research on the availability of grants or other sources of funding.

PARK RANGERS REPORT: (see attached)

- Trails, bridges & tennis courts done
- Rec program averaged 30 kids
- Bathrooms are painted
- Park staffing is ending for this summer.
- There is room to add to existing boat rack with smaller spaces for kayaks only. The Rowe Conference Center is willing to build this rack
- Sean suggested moving the old Park sign to a location on Cyrus Stage Road to mark the eastern edge of the Park. The Commissioners thought it was a good idea and approved the step.
- Police Chief Dandeneau told Russ that the Park employees riding on the ATV did not always wear the head gear and they should. Sean agreed to assure that this was done.

NEW BUSINESS

- There was much discussion about removing the plant (Water Sheild) that is choking out parts of the lake, especially near the dam and Percy's Point. The state Wetland Protection Act makes removal of the plant complicated.
- A summer resident suggested that the Park Department make Pelham Park t-shirts that could be purchased by parents of the children in the summer rec program. Sean agreed to look into the possibility and get back to the commission.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:05 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Earl Carlow Date: September 18, 2008

Approved:
Russell Jolly, Chair Russell W Jolly
Earl Carlow, Secretary Earl Carlow
MaryJo Phelps MaryJo Phelps