

Orford Parks and Playground Committee
Minutes of the Meeting
April 23, 2025
Orford Playground, Orford Bandstand, Orford Town Offices
5:30

Present: JJ Hebb (Chair), Lawrence Hibbard, Larry Taylor and Robb Day

The Meeting started at the Playground. It was determined that the area was in good shape and ready for the sunrise service that the church was planning. The Committee plans to move the leftover lumber stored under the pavilion up to the shed on the Community Field. Lawrence suggested that we prune the apple trees and move a pile of stay pack that could be spread on the parking area. The meeting then moved to the Bandstand.

Robb expressed concern over the structural integrity of the Bandstand and thought that maybe we should take it down before it falls down. All agreed it was leaning and in worse shape than it was during the winter. Larry suggested that he could touch base with a contractor he knows that specializes in old buildings and could possibly jack it up for repairs. JJ will ask Esther to put us on the Selectboard Agenda to discuss the Bandstand. The meeting then moved to the Orford Town Offices.

JJ moved that the March minutes should be accepted as read.

JJ informed the committee that we are unable to raise additional funds for the swim program by charging a small fee to the Orford and Piermont resident families at this time. She felt that we should be able to work within the budget since the lessons will be only be two weeks this year.

Chip from Diamond Turf will plan to complete the annual maintenance on the softball field soon and maintenance on the baseball field is completed but the pitchers mound needs work. Chip plans to work with Lawrence and teach him how to repair the mound so he will not have to be called in for minor issues. JJ e-mailed Terry Martin (Rivendell Schoolboard) regarding the baseball team field maintenance issues that are contributing to increase repair costs.

Lawrence pointed out a number of trees that need work, including ones at the Community Field. Robb asked if we could use the pole saw to take care of that one, Lawrence thought we could. Lawrence said the Ash tree on the corner of Rt 10 and Archertown was in bad shape and that may need to be taken down. He was also concerned about trees over the West Cemetery fence, a Maple by the Murphy's driveway on the Common and a large maple by David Smiths house on the West Common. Lawrence agreed to flag them and JJ will touch base with Esther so she can have Bill Wilson take a look.

The Bandstand Committee asked to be able to use a tent for the summer concert series and JJ approved it. At this time, it sounded like it would be taken down after concerts.

Green Up day is on May 3rd this year and JJ will be unable to help with road assignments at the dump this year. Lawrence and Robb agreed to take care of it.

Lawrence looked up prices for picnic tables to be placed at the Common. The 6' was \$289 and the 8' was \$319. It was agreed that one 6' table would be purchased this year. Lawrence and Robb need to put up the flags for the season. JJ will order new flags.

JJ will ask Esther if the Orford Select board can reach out the Piermont Select Board to see how to proceed for the issuance of Indian Pond Beach passes. Orford residents can access passes at the Town Clerk but as of last summer, Piermont was not handing out passes which made resident identification difficult for the Beach Monitor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05.

Minutes taken by Robb Day