

## **Orford Parks and Playgrounds Committee**

### **Minutes of the Meeting**

**November 19, 2025**

**Orford Town Offices**

**7:00**

**Present:** Larry Taylor, Lawrence Hibbard, JJ Hebb and Robb Day

October minutes were approved, all in favor.

No Property Use Requests/Forms at this time.

#### **Bandstand Repairs**

The Bandstand repairs have been completed. Herb Austic oversaw all repair work completed by Jonah Richards crew (Real Hazen Company). The total project came in just under budget and all are happy with the repairs. All of the wiring has been run and OP@P will put the Christmas tree and lights up on November 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:00.

#### **Projects for 2026**

JJ suggested that we apply lime and fertilizer to the Town Common. Orford Volunteer Fire Department has agreed to donate funds to help with the costs of fertilizer and lime. We did complete a soil test a few years ago and it did indicate that the pH of the soil is low and in need of lime.

Robb suggested that the new floor of the bandstand be treated and sealed in the spring. JJ also added that the soccer kick wall will also need to be sealed as it is due for another application. The Gazebo at the Indian Pond Beach will also need to be sealed as well.

JJ asked Larry if the Rivendell Trails donation line item in the OP&P budget can be reallocated to another area of the budget as the Committee does not oversee or have any association with the Trails group. Larry will look into it. She also suggested that if the swim program tuition funds can be placed into a special fund (instead of going into the general fund) then the OP&P could use those proceeds to replace the swim floats in the future as they are starting to show

their age. This will have to be discussed with the Select board and/or Chris Crowley (overseer of the Capital Reserve Funds) This may also have to be presented to the Town through a warrant article.

JJ will contact Julie Donnelly to replace the Community Field sign. This is a previous project that has not been completed yet. Lawrence suggested that the Softball Field Dugouts could use some paint as well.

Larry was informed that the previous Athletic Director for Rivendell received a donation of new baseball dugout kits. The materials are currently in the parking lot of the school. Lawrence felt that the design is too small for a high school team, and JJ added that the AD received the materials without the full approval of the OP&P. It was decided to put that project off as the current dugouts are sufficient and could use some renovations but at this time are useable.

Bark mulch will also have to be added to the trees along the Mall Walk.

Diamond Turf 2026 field maintenance was discussed. Lawrence felt that the seeding and compost worked well this year and the field held up much better than it should have considering the drought this summer.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:24

Minutes taken by Robb Day