

Bare Cove Park Committee Minutes

Tuesday, March 17, 2026

In attendance: Ray O'Neill, Lauren Murphy, Joanna Chmielinski, Melissa Smith, Claudia Eaton, Michael Cioffi

Absent: Katie Puzo

Guests: Geri Duff, Ginger Niehoff, Brian Seppala, Anita Ryan, Ted Matthews

Meeting called to order at: 7:03pm

- Walk to Remember - Ginger Niehoff - Approved
 - Ginger is President of Veteran's Appreciation club at HHS. Give back to veterans in need and commemorate what they've done for us.
 - Walk to Remember - continue from last year and make it an annual event.
 - 200 participants
 - Fundraising goal of generating \$1000 from the walk. Non-profit walk. Advertise as free entry and accept donations.
 - Fund raising website Mighty Cause. Fundraising goal - each student from club will make a page and write why the cause is important to them, share the page with people who would be willing to donate.
 - Interested in Back River Path, loop.
 - June 6th. Start 10am. Walk 10-12. Rain or shine.
 - Last year had 50 walkers
 - Each year, at the end of the year, the club makes a donation to a veteran supporting organization. Still discussing which organization the club will be donating to this year (plan to finalize prior to the walk).
 - Officer Ford to provide police and medic support
 - Donation set up for cash/venmo donations day of walk.
 - Water station.
- Treasurer's Report - Tabled
- Review and Accept December and February Meeting Minutes - Approved
 - (committee did not meet in January)
 - Clarify December minutes: per Town Attorney - it is permissible to build in the park, for example a pavilion. Would have to go through steps for approval but it is allowed. Park proper - located between the yellow gates.
 - Roadway - citizen was concerned paving was for more motorized vehicles in park, Committee indicated paving is for pedestrian safety.

- Ranger's Report -
 - 18th Feb - DPW new cutting edge on snow plow
 - Plow, open roads more. Dug out trash barrels. Trash. Few trees down across pathways, took care of them. Trimming back trees.
 - Light dept in park on 27th due to tree fire in the park. Close to building 80, an electrical pole was rotted at the bottom, causing a wire to touch a tree and cause smoldering fire. No damage. Light dept tied back pole
 - March 8th - opened museum - 112 visitors
- Maps
 - On the map, the kiosk is not on the side indicated by the map. Inconsistency.
 - Keep map and kiosk the way it is versus change the map/move the kiosk
 - Moving kiosk - significant project, placed in cement.
 - Put new Kiosk where E is supposed to be?
 - Take pictures and measure it prior to next meeting.
 - Will have meeting in the park to see it and make a decision - June 2026
- Further discussion on projects for the park and 2026 goals
 - Electric
 - Granted 60K
 - Selectboard decided, didn't need to go to Town Meeting, so can move forward
 - Electricity to the dockhouse museum - poles, etc. need to speak to Hingham Light.
 - TBD how plan to bring electricity into the park - from Cove area vs bus depot
 - Wires overhead vs underground
 - Were previously overhead lines in the park, many old poles are existing. Existing transformer at the dockhouse
 - Wire was cut when Hastings development went in, never hooked it back up
 - Wish to preserve nature of the park, have informed Hingham Light of that goal as well.
 - Anita Ryan - concerned about maintaining nature of park. Keep estuary dark at night. Consider keeping lighting only inside the dockhouse museum.
 - Committee comment - lighting would be for inside the museum. BCP closes at sunset, no nighttime events to illuminate. Security camera outside the museum, but wouldn't emit light.

- Geri Duff
 - Fire museum will be open most Saturday mornings from 8-10
 - April 12 - MA Antique Fire Apparatus Association will be at Bare Cove Fire Museum 10am - extra fire engines will be present
- Dog signs re: poop placed in park. 15 signs (10 by Lynch Field, 5 by other entrance), have 50 total. Ted to give remainder to Scott
 - April 11 - poop cleanup day. Started by a citizen.
- Question about future pavilion - idea to balance recreation and wildlife.
 - Town put in a new dock facility in front of Hingham Maritime, easier for crew team to launch from there.
- Items not anticipated on the Agenda/Citizen's input
 -

ADJOURN 7:53pm

Next Meeting: 4/21/26 at 7pm via Zoom

Lauren Murphy