

AD HOC THOMASTON GREEN PARK COMMITTEE

04/03/2024 Minutes (Meeting convened at 6 pm)

Members present: Zel, Jon, Sandra, Noreen, Nancy, Linda, Kathy, Mike, Ron, Marla, Kathleen

MEETING WITH NEIGHBORS:

- We provided a brief update about the committee's work so far. We provided an opportunity for neighbors to make comments and ask questions. List of neighbor's recommendations and concerns:
 - Post signage for hours of the park such as "dusk to dawn only"
 - Add additional fencing or plant screening along property lines on southeast side of park
 - Post enforcement of leash laws to discourage dogs from roaming into neighboring lots
 - Post signage "Respect Private Property" similar to nature preserves
 - Concern with current and future increased traffic at Knox clinic
 - Concern with idling buses in the Prison showroom parking lot, look into idling ordinance
 - Questions about sharing parking with Ka Chai, Knox clinic, Prison Showroom and Fire/EMS
 - Playground would be better centrally located in park away from road
 - Questions about bathroom location and proposed bus stop
 - Concern with light pollution (Dark-sky outdoor fixture compliance important)

GOVERNANCE:

- We discussed some options for the maintenance, management and stewardship of the Thomaston Green Park. Discussed the differences between town staff and volunteers managing the parks. Public works may need more staff to handle maintenance or there could be a dedicated park manager to help facilitate the care of the parks. Conservation Commission coordination and discussion will be important moving forward. But having someone who is accountable for the parks as a leader is critical.
- **MOTION: The Committee makes the recommendation that the stewardship and governance of Thomaston Green Park is through a Parks and Recreation Park that is staffed with a part-time employee [KN, NM (10,1,0)]**

Other:

- **MEETING MINUTES FROM MARCH 26, 2024 APPROVED.**
- Concerns with trash from Halloween behind middle school expressed. Consider Earth Day Clean Up.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm. Respectfully submitted, Zel Bowman-Laberge