

## **Veterans Memorial Park Committee Meeting Minutes: January 17, 2022**

Location: Police Department Community Room

Attending: Larry Mead (Chair), George Kerr, Michael Dickenson, Tina Kelly (remotely)

Absent: Billy Marshall, Dan Pascucci

Larry called meeting to order at 2:00pm.

There was a discussion regarding a grant opportunity for federal Land and Water Conservation Funding (LAWCON). The Town Manager submitted a required notice of intent to apply. Application is due on July 1. Grant is administered by the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands. Maximum award is \$500,000. Improvements to be considered for grant funding include the already designed new Veterans feature designated as Memory Knoll, new lighting, electrical upgrades, sidewalk improvements, and a replacement gazebo. Those present supported making an application. The criteria for grant award gives emphasis to community involvement in the planned improvements. For this reason the committee agreed that aggressive efforts should be made in the months ahead to obtain public input. The committee will try to identify a person or persons to oversee development of the grant application. The committee will ask for town funding now for engineering assistance to prepare plan documents and cost estimates.

The second focus of discussion was the FY23 operating budget for the Veterans Park. Identified needs included concerts in park, bathroom repairs, tennis court fence repairs, Holiday decorations and lighting, and a greenhouse. The committee will need to communicate its budget requests to the Town Manager in February.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:00