

Thetford Memorial Park Group (March 24, 2014)
(5PM-6PM)

Present: Ted Peters, Jennifer Davey, Marty Bouchard, Nicolas Buonanduci

- 1) Corrections to minutes from first meeting (March 10) include changing the phrase in paragraph 3 from “the rest” to “the other 3 trees for a cost of \$600 per tree” and that the cost of grinding alone would be \$4760.
- 2) The veterans for whom the original trees were planted are represented on the plaque on Town Hall but some of the designations may or may not be correct. More investigation is needed to be sure they are accurate.
- 3) We discussed the various things listed in Stuart’s e-mail regarding getting Safe Dig approval, CVPS approval and highway approval to do the stump removal. And the various stump removal processes were reviewed briefly. The Safe Dig approval is now complete and we have verbal approval from the other 2 groups.
- 4) We then discussed Jessica’s proposal. The proposal was approved by the Selectboard Monday night. This proposal is to hire Larry Godfrey to remove the stumps with an excavator and in so doing remove the roots with very little (if any) injury to the roads. He will then grade the land, seed it and mulch it. The cost is \$4500 but the Selectboard approved up to \$5000 in case he needs to add some fill. The cost is reasonable and Larry has a place to put the stumps now so we won’t need to wait for access to the Town’s stump dump. The 4 present voted in favor of this course of action. The Town needs a written document from Larry describing the work he will do and the cost before things can proceed.
- 5) The Selectboard voted to make the TMP Group a formally recognized working group on Monday night.
- 6) Brian Boland suggested that the stumps be left in place and either put plantings inside them or use them as bases for picnic tables (information related through a phone call with Jessica). We didn’t think the placement of the stumps were logical or aesthetically pleasing for this use. We appreciated his ideas though we decided removal of the stumps was favored.
- 7) We briefly discussed whether the wires across the green should be moved and a new pole put on the corner of the Lucy property. CVPS would do this for free so we need to consider this.
- 8) The official address of the park is 484 Route 244.
- 9) We will have a plaque of some sort on the green stating the purpose of the Park as a Memorial Park for Thetford veterans. The current suggestion for the wording is ‘DEDICATED TO ALL THETFORD VETERANS PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE, AND THEIR FAMILIES AND LOVED ONES’. There has been an early attempt to engage the American Legion in the process of making the plaque and perhaps we should follow up with this idea?

- 10) Ted passed out a sheet of paper with the wedge-shaped image of the park area on it (340' X312' X143'(arc)) and asked all of us to consider what we want the park to look like. Do we want trees? What kind? Do we want bushes and flowers? Where will the plaque go? Will there be picnic tables? Benches? Nicolas explained that the high school has classes that might be interested in building any structures we might want and perhaps growing some of the trees before planting to save some money and get the school involved.
- 11) Our next meeting is set for Tuesday April 21 at 5pm with a back-up day of Tuesday April 28 at 5PM.
- 12) The meeting ended at 6PM.