

Open Space and Recreation
Tuesday February 09, 2021
ZOOM Meeting Minutes

Call to order at 6:05PM

Members present: Peter Pescatore, Tom Callahan, Marisa Manley, Maryanne Wetherald, Dee Riley

Other guests: Jay Pimpare, Sarah Burgess

Once a quorum was realized, the chair asked for comments on the minutes from the January 12th meeting. There were no edits recommended and Deirdre Riley moved to approve the minutes. Tom Callahan seconded. The motion was approved 4-0-1.

Grant Sub-Committee: Dee Riley informed the committee that the grant sub-committee is trying to set up a meeting with Lauren Lind to discuss how our grant sub-committee can be more helpful in the town's ability to secure grants. The chair suggested that the grant sub-committee should identify due dates on grants, so that they can work backwards in planning to hit those due dates.

Bylaw Sub-Committee: The chair informed the committee that Chris Senior filed the final certification needed for the Tree City USA application. The application has officially been accepted and should be in the queue for approval in 2021.

Chris Senior also assured the chair that he will get the tree policy cleaned up and in front of the select board soon. The only outstanding item to clarify is the enforcement and who will be the appropriate party to enforce the policy. Jay Pimpare inquired if there was a draft of the tree policy. The chair explained that the policy is intended to re-define the guidelines of treatment for trees removed on municipally owned property, and to also clarify trees along yard lines, streets and sidewalks.

Master Plan Implementation Committee: The chair and Tom Callahan made a presentation for the planning group to discuss their process and update the planning group on their progress. There are three items that the committee is working on now with the goal of bringing the changes to the annual town meeting for approval. There are other items that are more long term but are also in need of revisions. The focus of the committee has been to create more uniform definitions, remove dead weight in the by-laws and enable the zoning board to be more flexible when something new or different is proposed.

Harbor Committee Plan: The chair informed the committee that the Harbor Committee plan has been approved and is now in motion. The Harbor By-laws are currently reviewing the 6 zoned districts in the harbor which need to be reviewed and modified.

Current Action Item Progress:

Whadleigh Park: The chair reviewed a diagram that was proposed by Cohasset 250 for the development of Whadleigh park. The diagram was a rendering of 20+ additional parking spaces to allow for more accessibility to Black Rock Beach. The chair asked the committee to draft a recommendation of the property that the chair can present to Chris Senior. Maryanne Wetherald asked if there was a narrative or any details that came with the render, and stated that the committee would need more details from a conservation perspective before moving forward. Dee Riley suggested that based on the grant subcommittee meeting they had other ideas about recreation for that space including boats and other watercraft available for town use. Jay Pimpare reiterated there is a push for the additional parking spaces from the town, but he also stated he has strong reservations from both a safety and conservation perspective on the plan. Dee Riley suggested the chair reach out to the consulting company who provided the drawing for a blank version that the committee can then use for their proposal. The chair will reach out to Cavanaro Consulting and Maryanne Wetherald offered to walk the property for a visual assessment.

Maryanne Wetherald also inquired about Barnes Sanctuary as a potential property for development. The chair will research more details and restrictions on that property.

SkatePark: The chair stated this is a longer term project because there is no natural and visible location currently and the recreation committee is not in favor of pursuing this project right now. The committee will keep this project on the backburner and the chair will continue to research it.

Earth Day: The chair informed the committee that the application for the Earth Day event was submitted, but it will not get approved at the 2/9 selectboard meeting. The chair did inform the committee that the health department covid plan was approved last week and the event application should be on the agenda for approval at the 2/16 selectboard meeting.

Graffiti: This was not discussed as Sue Cunningham was not present

CCT Land Acquisition Criteria: Tom Callahan was able to obtain this criteria from the conversation committee. Tom Callahan stated the land behind Shaws on 3A is for sale and the committee may want to drum up interest for the town to purchase this land. Tom Callahan suggested that the committee should get a list of available and undeveloped properties on the market, which the chair stated is a longer term project that we will discuss in the next meeting,

The chair asked for a motion to adjourn. Dee Riley moved the motion and Tom Callahan seconded. The motion was approved 5-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm
Respectfully submitted,
Marisa Manley

