

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 2016
HEARING ROOM 3, 2ND FLOOR at 7:30 pm
MARSHFIELD TOWN HALL
MARSHFIELD, MA

A meeting of the Marshfield Open Space Committee ("the Committee") was called to order at 7:45 pm. Chairperson Karen O'Donnell (KO), members Tom Whalen (TW), Bob Shaughnessy (BS), Chad Haitsma (CH) and Sue MacCallum (SM) were present. Vicki McPherson (VM), Michael Biviano (MB) and Chris Ciocca (CC) were absent.

The Committee reviewed regular and executive session minutes for March 24, 2016. TW made a motion to accept the regular session minutes for March 24, 2016 as written. Seconded by SM. All voted in favor. TW made a motion to accept the executive session minutes for March 24, 2016 as written. Seconded by SM. All voted in favor.

The next meeting date was tentatively set for July 21, 2016.

UPDATES:

Conservation Restrictions

KO reported that draft CRs for Jomat, Salvetti and Holly Road were almost ready for review by Town Counsel. She went on a site visit to the Jomat property with the Wildlands Lands Committee and they unanimously approved taking it to their Board for approval. It is expected that the Wildlands Lands Committee will be conducting a site visit of the 310 Furnace Street property very soon. KO reported that a reimbursement requirement of the DWSP grant for Furnace Street is that all Community Preservation Act funded CRs be in place. SM reported that Audubon still needs survey information on the Bennett property. Jay is still working on the Maryland Street CR to be held by The Trustees of Reservations. The buildings on the Pratt property pose a problem for advancing the CR. A building envelope will have to be surveyed out before Wildlands will take the CR.

Comprehensive Trails Study

KO reported that BL Industries held a Public Hearing at the Senior Center. There still seems to be a push to pave. People in attendance who support the equestrian use had serious concerns about paving and the safety issues associated with the interaction of horses and bikes. TW reported that BL Industries' cost estimate for paving along the bridle path is prohibitive. There was an extended discussion of the proposed trail recommendations by BL Industries. TW does not think we are getting all the deliverables of the RFP. He is disappointed that they did not give more consideration to the multi-use trail proposed by Greg Guimond. TW believes they were not in favor because they want to use the RR bed and bridle path, which they referred to as the "spine" of the trail system. SM noted that there are wetlands along the bridle path and that you cannot fill wetlands. It was noted that paving the bridle path could eliminate the equestrian user group. There ensued a discussion of alternative surfaces to paving that could be used and would be ADA compliant. SM talked about using ½" schist. SM noted that a Cherry Hill-Daniel Webster connection path would cost a fortune. She requested that all private parcels be identified as such on all mapping. BL Industries gave out sample maps to those in attendance. A final report is being assembled and will be available soon.

310 Furnace Street

KO reported that a 21E Assessment, Phase 1 would be taking place the next day. Asbestos abatement was also taking place that day. The house demolition is moving forward. Proposals for survey work have been requested. The sale of the property is being pushed back to the end of July.

DISCUSSION:

Pratt Property Trails & Kayak launch

KO reported that she had requested a timeline from Pat Brennan at Amory Engineers on the work to be done on the kayak launch and on the Pratt property. She shared an email from Pat on that timeline and also the Amory proposal to start the bidding process, which was being submitted to Rocco Longo for review and acceptance. Members of the Committee questioned whether Pat's timeline would allow for the kayak launch to be completed in time for use this season. The Committee

would like a review and more specifics on the timeline. KO will follow up.

There was a discussion of what can be done with the house and barn on the property. It appears that there is not enough upland frontage to carve out an ANR lot. BS asked about a lease. TW has done a lot of research and does not think that is a viable solution. If it were determined that the buildings should be demolished, CPA funds cannot be used. The CR is in limbo until a decision on the buildings is made.

TW gave a brief history of Zenas Brook and asked that we consider changing the name of the Pratt property to Zenas Brook Conservation Area. TW made a motion to recommend to the Conservation Agent that Zenas Brook Conservation Area be the new name for the Pratt property project. Seconded by SM. All voted in favor. KO will inquire about the protocol for making a change and will make the recommendation to the Conservation Agent.

OSRP Update Process

KO reported that the \$30,000 in CPC Administrative funds that CPC had voted for an outside consultant to help with the OSRP Update would not be available as expected. Apparently administrative funds have to be expended before the end of the fiscal year. Procurement laws do not allow enough time for us to write an RFP, get bids and contract with anyone before that deadline. KO reported that she had been in touch with Brian Adams about ADA information at recreation properties that may be included in the Capital Assessment project. Brian will share any relevant information once he gets the final assessment. There was a general discussion of what will be required for the update. SM stated that we will need to update maps, goals and objectives and there needs to be a community survey with a public hearing and input. Members of the Committee who have been involved with previous OSRP updates stated that it involves a tremendous amount of work. At the very least, the ADA self-assessment and transition plan and all mapping will need to be subbed out. The Committee agreed that we should continue to look for funding to engage a consultant for assistance with the update. KO has been in contact with one consultant in addition to the Conway School. SM will follow up with a colleague on another possible lead.

KO made a motion at 9:10 pm to enter into executive session not to return to regular session, for real property discussion because discussion in an open session may be detrimental to the Committee's negotiating position. SM seconded. Roll call vote: TW yes, BS yes, CH yes, SM yes and KO yes.

Submitted by Karen O'Donnell

Email from Pat Brennan