

## OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2017

HEARING ROOM 3, 2<sup>ND</sup> 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 7:37 pm. Chairperson Karen O’Donnell (KO), members Chad Haitsma (CH), Chris Ciocca (CC), Sue MacCallum (SM) and Vicki McPherson (VM) were present.

The Committee reviewed regular and executive session minutes for November 3, 2016. KO made a motion to accept the regular and executive session minutes for November 3, 2016 as written. Seconded by VM. CC, CH, VM and KO voted in favor. SM abstained.

Bob Shaughnessy (BO) entered the meeting. The next meeting date was tentatively set for January 26, 2017.

### **UPDATES:**

#### **Committee Make-Up**

Because of continued difficulty getting a quorum for meetings, KO had requested that the Selectmen consider reducing the membership of the Committee. She reported that the Board of Selectmen had discussed and voted at their meeting on January 9, 2017 to eliminate the requirement for representatives from Assessors and Planning on the Committee thus reducing the membership to seven. A quorum will now be four. She reported that the Recreation Commission had also requested a reduction. The Selectmen voted their membership to five with two alternates. Alternates will be able to vote if there are not enough full-time members present. Their quorum will be three.

#### **Pratt Property**

KO reported that she had delivered the Committee’s letter regarding the buildings on the property to the Selectmen. There was a discussion with the Selectmen, and KO stated that she felt the original 6-month assessment period for the barn should be changed and that an assessment should be conducted as soon as possible. The Selectmen tabled the discussion until KO could discuss the change with the Committee. Completing and recording of the CR on this property is

required for the Town to receive our drinking water protection grant reimbursement. A discussion ensued and the Committee agreed that the assessment should be initiated as soon as possible.

### **CPC Application**

There was a discussion of the Committee's CPC application to fund conservation restrictions and surveys that had not been adequately funded at the time of acquisition. KO reported that she had solicited and received a second estimate for the stewardship endowment on the Bennett/Careswell property from Wildlands Trust (the Committee had already received a cost estimate from Audubon). After discussion, it was decided to engage Wildlands Trust for the required conservation restriction at an estimated \$12,000. There was further discussion of survey work that may be needed for other properties. It was decided to formally request \$18-20,000.

### **DISCUSSION:**

#### **OSRP Update**

KO reported that the RFP for updating the Town's Open Space and Recreation Plan was completed. An ad had been placed in the Mariner and it is also on the Town website. There was a glitch in the CommBuys process and though efforts had been made, we were not able to place the ad. The ad and RFP package had been emailed to three firms who it was thought may be interested in submitting a proposal.

The Committee then reviewed the open space survey contained in the 2010 OSRP update. They also reviewed survey questions from other communities. A draft survey was crafted by the Committee and will be reviewed and voted on at our next meeting. After it has been finalized, it will be made available to the public using Survey Monkey and paper copies will be made available at Town Hall, the Library etc.

KO made a motion at 9:50 pm to enter 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. VM seconded. Roll call vote: BS yes, CH yes, CC yes, VM yes, SM yes and KO yes.

**Submitted by Karen O'Donnell**