

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, MAY 3, 2018

HEARING ROOM 3, 2ND FLOOR at 7 pm

MARSHFIELD TOWN HALL, MARSHFIELD, MA

A meeting of the Marshfield Open Space Committee (“the Committee”) was called to order at 7:05 pm. Chairperson Karen O’Donnell (KO), members Chris Ciocca (CC), Chad Haitsma (CH), Vicki McPherson (VM) and Sue MacCallum (SM) were present.

Minutes Review: Regular session minutes for March 29, 2018 were reviewed. KO made a motion to approve regular session minutes for March 29, 2018. Seconded by VM. The minutes were approved as written, by VM, SM, CH, CC and KO.

Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Executive Summary: The Committee reviewed the OSRP executive summary prepared by Krista from Horsley Witten. Members’ comments focused on the seven items shown on the action plan map. After discussion, it was the consensus of the members present to eliminate the item numbers on the map, qualify that it is not the complete action plan, and, for clarity, the acronym WRPD should be spelled out in what is presently item #5. CH made a motion to instruct Krista to make the above changes to the executive summary. Seconded by VM. Approved unanimously.

At 7:18 pm, KO made a motion to enter into executive session, returning to regular session for real property discussion because discussion in an open session may be detrimental to the Committee’s negotiating position. Seconded by VM. Roll Call vote: CC yes, SM yes, CH yes, VM yes and KO yes.

The Committee exited executive session at 8:23 pm and returned to regular session.

Member Kevin Cantwell (KC) entered the meeting during executive session.

Old Business: Ned Bangs from the Recreational Trails Committee (RTC) entered the meeting and made another presentation on the signage that

RTC is working on for Town open space properties. He reported that the RTC had prepared a power point presentation for Town Meeting and that their request for CPA funds for trail signage had been approved. Previously, at Special Town Meeting in October 2017, the RTC received \$5,000 in CPA funds to build kiosks at a cost of \$500 each. He reported that the RTC had spent a lot of time editing and had made many changes to the prototype signage he had presented at the Committee's last meeting. There will be changes to the language, font & color, etc. There was a discussion on the rules that will be on the signage. VM reported that Jason Zimmer had attended the last RTC meeting and offered information on "hunting, fishing & fowling". Discussion continued on what rules will appear on the signs and members offered differing opinions as to whether "No Hunting" should be included. KO suggested that it may give a false sense of security because, although hunting is not allowed on Conservation land, most town conservation land is not posted and there are parcels in close proximity to that land where hunting is allowed. CC disagreed and, since there is no hunting on Conservation land, would prefer to see No Hunting on the signage. Should the hunting rules change and specific times when hunting is allowed are established, signs could be posted indicating the type of hunting that will be allowed and the corresponding time frame. There was further discussion of thinning the list of other stated rules. SM suggested language stating that "All rules and regulations of the Conservation Commission must be followed."

Ned mentioned that he would be leading walks through the Senior Center – Life Long Learning. There are walks scheduled for the Jose Carriero Woodland in May and John Little Preserve in June. They will also be scheduling walks on different properties for July through November.

VM inquired again about the open space acquisition accounts that would be used to fund some of the signage. KO reported that there are funds for signage at Jose Carriero Woodland, a combined kiosk sign and you are here signs for Little/Goggin/Jomat, Pratt, Pilgrim Trail, Furnace Street and possibly off Holly Road. Because there is no direct access to the Salvetti parcel, it was decided that signage would not be necessary.

The Committee thanked Ned for coming in and continuing to update the Committee on the RTC's progress.

The Committee discussed releasing the CPA funds left in the acquisition account for the Salvetti (Off Pleasant Street) property back to CPC. SM made a motion to release the CPA fund balance in the Salvetti acquisition account back to CPC. Second KO. Approved unanimously

Old Business:

Pratt: KO reported that the Historical Commission (HC) had convened an emergency meeting at the request of the Board of Selectmen and Facilities Manager. The HC voted to allow demolition of the Pratt house only, not the barn. Discussion is ongoing with the Fair to move the barn to the Fairgrounds. The new CR reviewer was contacted and responded to a request about allowing a dog park on the Pratt property. A dog park would not be allowed if the CPA funds were allocated for "passive open space" and/or "conservation" purposes. Such land would have to go through Article 97 legislation since dog parks and their associated infrastructure are considered "active" recreational uses of land.

At 9:09 pm KO made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by KC. Approved unanimously.

Submitted by Karen O'Donnell