

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 2019

TOWN PLANNING OFFICE, 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 Chad Haitsma (CH), Chris Ciocca (CC) and Sue MacCallum (SM) were present.

Minutes Review: Regular session minutes for June 20, 2019 were reviewed. KO made a motion to approve regular session minutes for June 20, 2019. Seconded by SM. SM, CH & KO approved the minutes as written. CC abstained.

At 7:10 pm, KO made a motion to enter 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 CC. Roll call vote: SM yes, CH yes, CC yes and KO yes.

At 9:15 pm, the Committee returned to regular session.

Open Space Officers, Policy and Planning: KO presented, and the Committee reviewed and commented on a document setting forth the duties of the Committee’s Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary. CH noted that under external committees/groups, representatives should be vetted for any possible conflict of interest and such appointments should be for a specified period of time.

CH will be working on updates to the OSRP, possibly for discussion at the Committee’s next meeting.

RTC: Signage, Pratt, Rail Trail: KO talked about the unveiling of new signage at Cornhill Woodland. The RTC is interested to know what the Committee’s commitment for trail signage is, and if we are willing to contribute any funds for the design fee. Committee members questioned if we had already paid for the design fee. Members want a cap on any committed funds going forward and a vote on how it is spent.

South River Park and Greenway: KO informed the Committee of efforts by the Friends of South River Park to raise funds for maintenance and restoration projects at the Park. There was a discussion of possibly appointing interested parties to act as representatives of the Committee at meetings with the Friends, with town employees or with outside organizations regarding the South River Park and Greenway extension. It was noted by several Committee members that such appointees should express the interests of the Committee and should serve as an information source only for the Committee.

Mitigation CRs: There was a discussion of who the applicant to CPC should be when requesting monies for survey work on certain CR mitigation properties and land acquisition legal fees for tax title taking properties. KO will talk to the Town Administrator.

Next Meeting Date: Tentatively scheduled for September 19, 2019.

At 10:10 pm KO made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by CC. It was unanimously voted to adjourn.

Submitted by Karen O’Donnell