

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2022

HEARING RM 2, 2ND FLOOR at 7 pm

MARSHFIELD TOWN HALL, MARSHFIELD, MA

A meeting of the Marshfield Open Space Committee (“the Committee”) was called to order by the Chair, Susan Caron (SC) at 7:14 pm. Members present Karen O’Donnell (KO), Chris Ciocca (CC) and Steve Goodhue (SG).

Minutes Review: After review and upon SC’s motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to approve the regular session minutes for January 6, 2022, as written. SC yes, SG yes and KO yes. CC abstained.

Town Meeting Conservation Restriction Article: SC updated the Committee on discussion and possible vote by the Conservation Commission on conservation restrictions for mitigation parcels. Some members of the ConCom had concerns about how a CR could affect activities at Couch beach. SC had talked with Wildlands Trust about enabling improvements and modeling an environmental management plan. Existing trails and passive recreation will continue as always, and the parcels will be monitored annually. Language to allow tents will be added to the CR. The Old Mt. Skirgo parcel does not presently have trails, and none will be added. We are restricting activities on these parcels to provide undisturbed habitat for the Eastern Box Turtle that was taken with the construction at the Boys & Girls Club and recreation fields.

Open Space Plan: There was a brief discussion of the timeline to start the OSRP update, engaging a consultant and writing an RFP for the project. SC will contact Melissa Cryan on the timeline.

Public Survey: The Committee will consider preparing an interim survey to determine how satisfied the community is with the goals of the OSRP and if there are new objectives that we should consider in our update.

Pratt Property Improvements: SC discussed her meeting with Mr. Maresco and whether we can use funds left in accounts for

improvements at the site. She will get in touch with the chair of the CPC and town counsel. She detailed anticipated needs: grading plan, trail connection to existing path, landscape design plan, wetland/buffer zone restoration, invasive species management plan, create rest area with benches near trail connection, blocking/limiting access to the property from South River Street and developing a working group. SG and CC offered to join the working group. SC will ask other members and Bill Grafton. A site visit is planned soon.

NEXT MEETING: March 24, 2022

Executive Session for Real Property Updates:

At 8:05 pm, upon SC's motion duly made and seconded, it was voted to enter executive session, not returning to regular open session, for real property discussion because discussion in an open session may be detrimental to the Committee's negotiating position. Roll call vote: SC yes, CC yes, SG yes and KO yes.

Submitted by
Karen O'Donnell, Clerk