

## **Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee Meeting MINUTES December 13, 2022**

**Members Present:** Tania Lillak (Chair), Richard Smith (Historical Commission), Steve Banks, Sierra Muñoz.

**Public Present:** Mary Ellen Fletcher

**Meeting called to order and recording started at 7:03 pm**

**1. Minute taker assignment:** Richard Smith

**2. Public Comment:** None

**3. Approval of minutes from November 8, 2022:** Sierra Munoz moved to approve, Steve Banks seconded, unanimously approved.

### **4. Updates/Action items from last meeting's minutes**

**Goal 1.** Town improvement policy- do other towns have them? Does capital improvements committee have criteria that might be relevant, or a check list for a review process. OSRC recommends that the Town have a policy for receiving gifts. What additional public funds does a donation require? Develop draft check list.

**Action Item:** Brian and Richard have not yet met; Richard is looking at collection donation policy recently adopted by the Historical Commission as a potential model.

**Goal 46.** Public access/management plan, including interpretive signage: signage was not on the December town Meeting warrant. ADA transition plan- issue with accessibility from the Humphrey Street side of the gazebo.

**Action Item:** Tania to contact Marzie about funding for branding and signage.

**Goal 49.** Humphrey Street sidewalks: Are Jersey barriers a permanent feature of the landscape? Could there be a standard for sidewalk improvements?

**Action Item:** No update from Angela.

**Goal 51.** Programmed areas for beach activities.

**Action item:** No update from the Recreation Director

**Goal 53.** Kayak storage: Racks are more heavily used than the # of permits would suggest; rack can fit 2 or 3 kayaks in the slots. Richard saw several slots in the rack at the Fish House with multiple kayaks. Some proposed pier designs may affect kayak storage. Is anyone attending HWAC meetings? They have not contacted the HDC, which has jurisdiction.

**Action Item:** Steve to contact Gino again to revisit plans for more storage

**Goal 54.** Improvements to playground/park facilities: The basketball courts at the Clark school has been resurfaced; cracks repaired at the Middle School. No place to add pickleball courts right now at Abbott or Windsor Park so Marzie is thinking about Phillips Park (see **Community Development Update**)

**Goal 60.** Work with Swampscott for All Ages when parks are updated. Tania emailed the chair Bob Powell. He was on vacation, but cc'd his co-chairs. They will get back to us with any suggestions.

## **5. New Business**

None

## **6. OSRP Airtable Review**

**Goal 61:** Improve parking at Harold King forest entrance.

**Action Item:** Completed

**Goal 62:** Develop web to print trail maps

Swampscott Conservancy was working with Salem State students; it does have descriptions of the trails posted on line. Some maps are available through a link on the OSRC page of the Town website. Sierra will provide updates as she can.

**Goal 63:** Feasibility of ADA accessible paths.

**Action Item:** Tania to follow up with Marzie re ADA accessible paths.

**Goal 64:** Foster Pond public access.

No update.

**Action Item:** Tania to contact Toni for update on Foster Pond.

**Goal 65:** Extend National Register status from the Lynn Line to Redington Street.

Seawall repairs need to be done to get DCR to consider taking over the maintenance of this section of King's Beach. Is the seawall work complete?

**Action Item:** Tania to check with Marzie who will check with Gino.

**7. (Goal #67). Student involvement:** one new student, in addition to Yaroslava, is interested in working on ORSC projects.

**Action Item:** Brian to reach out to new student.

## **8. (Goal #1) Memoria/ Monuments policy**

Brian and Richard have not met due to scheduling conflicts; Richard is working on language for the cover letter.

**Action Item:** Brian and Richard to schedule a meeting after the holidays.

## **9. Property Acquisition**

1 Archer is secured; the other Archer Street property will be taken by eminent domain by the end of the year.

The Hawthorne acquisition was finalized last week. The first public forum on the future of the property will be held on January 28.

## **10. Green Corridor**

Toni Bandrowicz and Brian Longin were not at tonight's meeting to update. Gino Cresta has sent out a paving schedule. Community Development is still working on getting branding signage under way, but the graphics consultant was not funded at the fall town meeting. Maybe spring? OSRC needs an update from Community Development.

**Action Item:** Tania to contact Marzie about funding for branding and signage.

### **11. Task Force update – Rights of Ways, Paper Streets, Public Ways & Easements**

The Task Force had its first meeting on Dec. 7, with Tania Lillak, Angela Ippolito, and Brian Drummond in attendance. Most of the rights of way just require town meeting approval and signage. Steve Banks has compiled a spreadsheet and word document with descriptions of the rights of way, can jump back in on this. Issue of fencing blocking the right of way from Claremont Terrace to Nirvana Drive. Should Nirvana Drive become a public way? Windsor Road- "private" sign to be taken down, new sign identifying it as a public way to be installed.

### **12. Community Development Update**

Marzie Galaska was not available for tonight's meeting. CD is looking at the possibility of pickleball courts at the back of Phillips Park in the present boat storage area. Abbot Park plan will keep the northeast corner green. Money is available for path construction in the Archer Street property; the Town is also considering a path for Jackson Park.

### **13. Swampscott Conservancy update**

The annual meeting was held at the end of November. They are working on membership. There is interest in the trail potential for Archer Street and on invasive plant removal. The proposed new pier raises questions about impacts on eelgrass and Kings Beach water quality. The Climate Action Resilience Plan Committee is becoming a Town Committee; Sierra Munoz will be the OSRC rep. They are developing a resilience plan for the Town.

### **14. School Building Committee**

No update

### **15. Committee/Department update - Tree Committee, Verena, via email**

- Fall planting is done; 30 trees, including 8 on the Town Hall property
- Canopy study: Two Salem State students have compared canopy coverage in photos to identify canopy loss over time and found 108.5 acres of canopy lost between 2010 and 2016. The TC will be discussing the findings and how to present them in January.
- Forestry Budget - the TC wrote a letter in support of increasing the budget for maintenance of our urban forest. The \$7500 for contract work was depleted by the end of July for removal of 2 large trees; they propose \$10,000 for urban forest management and an increase in contracted work to \$30,000. The Town Administrator has indicated that town finances for next year are tight.
- The TC reviewed the General Glover proposal and provided feedback to the developer.

**16. Committee/Department update – Conservation - Toni**

No update

**17. Committee/Department update – Historical - Richard**

Richard Smith is working on acquisitions policies for monuments, memorials and public art and will use the policies the Historical Commission is developing for its collections as a model.

**18. Planning Commission update-**

No update- Angela Ippolito is attending a Marblehead Planning Commission meeting on the General Glover property.

**19. Committee/Department update – Recreation - Danielle Strauss**

No update; Danielle is away.

**20. Other business**

None

**21. Confirmation of next meeting date – January 10, 2023**