

## Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee Meeting MINUTES – May 9, 2023

**Members Present:** Tania Lillak (Chair), Toni Bandrowicz (Vice Chair), Richard Smith (Historical Commission), Sierra Muñoz, Brian Longin, and Steve Banks.

**Members Absent:** Danielle Strauss (Recreation Director), and Angela Ippolito (Planning Board), Verena Karsten (Tree Committee)

**Meeting called to order and recording started at 7:09 pm**

**1. Minute taker assignment:** Sierra Muñoz

**2. Public Comment:** None

**3. Approval of minutes from April 11, 2023:** Sierra moved to approve, second by Steve. Unanimously approved.

**4. Updates on Action Items from last meeting's minutes:**

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

The former mayor of Revere Brian Arrigo is new DCR Commissioner. Sean had suggested that we wait until a new DCR Commissioner has been appointed and then schedule a meeting with all of the stakeholders. He's had several meetings with Brendan Crighton and Jenny Armini about Kings Beach, and wanted to bring the new DCR commissioner into the discussion for a larger ask. Ms. Ippolito and Mr. Smith sent emails to Nancy Schultz to see if Historic Commission can coordinate application for Kings Beach.

**Action Item:** Marzie will follow up with Sean now that there is a new DCR commissioner. Ms. Ippolito and Mr. Smith will follow up with Nancy Schultz.

**5/9 Update:** No update from Marzie or Historic Commission on this; tabled for next meeting.

**Goal 53.** (*“Find and install additional areas for kayak and small boat storage”*) Mr. Mr. Banks and Gino continue to discuss adding kayak racks. The front runner in locations is at Whale's Beach (Polisson Park).

**Action Item:** Mr. Banks will discuss both sites further with Mr. Cresta.

**5/9 Update:** Steve discussed; potential is Whales Beach or to put rings on retaining wall at Kings Beach in the center (near where park/grass is); discussed need for motion to Conservation Commission; Gino, Steve, Toni and Marissa will walk the area this week.

**Goal #69:** (*“Develop and publish information on human interaction with wildlife”*)

Toni was unable to connect with Dan.

**Action Item:** Toni will check on Dan Proulx on brochure. Leave this on one more month until June meeting.

**Goal #15:** *(Acquire conservation restriction to protect open space land in perpetuity” Jackson Woods)*

Toni spoke with Pete Kane, and determined that it is possible to use the ANR process for this due to existing location of town land. The next step is that we need a Plan of Land to use to proceed with ANR.

**Action Item:** Ms. Bandrowicz continues to work on the Jackson Woods CR and will update us next meeting.

**Goal #71**

Work with ENHC to create signage along Byway indicating points of interest

**Action Item:** Angela will work with contact at Trustees mtg on April 27- whats the process

**5/9 Update:** no update; tabling for next meeting.

**Goal #72**

Explore options for additional trails HKF and on Aggregate property. David Grishman very interested in that area.

**Action Item:** Angela will follow up with him Friday morning 4-14

**5/9 Update:** no update; tabling for next meeting.

## **5. New Business**

Discussion about options for getting town funds for graphic designer to create unified branding for signage (Green Corridor etc); disappointment that funding is not listed on Spring 2023 Town Meeting Warrant; \$5K has been discussed but it was not included in budget.

**Action Item:** Tania will work to ensure item is included in next town meeting warrant. Toni to speak to Marzie about funding.

## **6. OSRP Airtable Review – New**

**Goal #76.** *Investigate and protect wildlife corridors; add to Green Corridor map as needed.*

**Action Item:** Toni will connect with Dan Proulx about this issue.

**Goal #77:** *Investigate feasibility of adding water bottle refill stations along Green Corridor.*

Discussion: This would need to involve DPW as it would be a water main and maintenance issue. Are there existing water fountains that could be connected? Could also parallel with Rail Trail efforts.

Tabling discussion until after Green Corridor is established via signage, painted indicators.

**Action Item:** Tania will connect with Marzie for update on Rail Trail and potential for Green Corridor improvements.

**Goal #78:** *Work with Salem Conservation Commission to establish and maintain trail connection from Swampscott Cemetery to Forest River Conservation trail network.*  
Completed in October 2020!

## **7. Student involvement**

**Goal #67:** (*“Develop a program for a high school student to join the OSRPC each year”*) and **Goal #68:** (*“Develop and execute a plan for education in schools about the importance of open space and Town resources”*).

**5/9 Update and Action Item:** Will look at recruitment in Fall; continue to table/discuss.

## **8. Memorial/ Monuments policy (Goal #1 and 46):**

**Action Item:** Richard to provide follow up letter thanking the SB for support and recommending next steps and implementation of policy.

**5/9 Update:** no update; table for next meeting.

## **9. Property Acquisition (Goal #43):**

Archer Street clean-up happened in April (Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts); significant trash cleaned up from the site. Report from Toni (via Marzie) that there was a plan to lay out trails.

Hawthorne Property: Forum happened on April 26th; discussion of potential next steps for Hawthorne property. SB indicated a broader scope will be sought for the property development; Sierra shared SB quotes on meeting and process from recent Patch article. Discussion about feedback and process into property plan and potential options for the space.

**Action Item:** Tania will ask Marzie about trails plan for Archer St property and what the next steps for Hawthorne property idea/development would be.

## **10. Green Corridor:**

Ongoing

**Action Item:** Ms. Bandrowicz will research green infrastructure and potentially identify locations for sidewalk drainage gardens. Committee will discuss with Marzie about funding for such work. Committee will also inform Mr. Cresta of potential locations for bike path work.

**5/9 Action Item:** Toni and Brian will connect on plan for Green Corridor; asks, grant potential, etc.

## **11. Task Force update – Rights of Ways, Paper Streets, Public Ways & Easements (Goal #48)**

Steve reviewed current task force; existing rights of way have no action pending other than waiting for signage for them. Steve is discussing with Marzie a determination from KP Law on one of the public ways/easements. All of paper streets essentially below to

abutters, with a few exceptions; some would be beneficial to have public access, but some would not significantly enhance public good. Waiting for determination from KP law for future action.

**12. Community Development Update:**

No update.

**13. Swampscott Conservancy update:**

Had annual members meeting in April; Rep. Armani was speaker and spoke about Tree Canopy bill in legislature. Native Plant Sale will be at first Farmers Market, June 11th.

**14. Committee/Department update – Climate Action Plan (CAP)**

Climate Action Plan Committee plan Resilient Swampscott is available online and is in the Town Meeting warrant.

**15. Committee/Department update – Tree Committee**

No update.

**17. Committee/Department update - Conservation Commission:**

Con Comm provided emergency approval for seawall repair at Kings Beach.

**18. Committee/Department update – Historical Commission:**

HC had public meeting on Glover House in April; involvement between Marblehead and Swampscott in discussion to potentially preserve Glover House, incorporate it into new development or movement to another location. HC has placed a 9 month demolition delay on the property.

Richard did historic inventory record on Pitman House in advance of new construction.

**19. Committee/Department update - Planning Board:**

No update.

**20. Committee/Department update – Recreation: No update.**

**21. Other business**

Hadley Reuse Committee: Steve asks what the committee's future is in terms of involvement in development ideas.

**21. Confirmation of next meeting date – Tuesday, June 13 at 7:00 pm**

**Parking Lot**

**Goal 66:** (*“Install unified signage at primary facility entrances as well as along connecting paths/roads”*). Check to confirm that funding for company to do branding for signs is on Spring Town Meeting Warrant.

**Goal 49:** (*“Expand and improve public sidewalks along popular walking routes, especially Humphrey Street”*) Are Jersey barriers a permanent feature of the landscape? Could there be standards developed for sidewalk improvements? Marzie stated the town is surveying to look at using the barriers to improve the dining experience. Also looking to see if they can keep a designated bike lane connected to existing infrastructure.

**Action Item:** Marzie will present design once created.

**Goal 64:** (*“Examine public access and programming potential” - at Foster Pond*) There is a small piece of land that is off Windsor Ave. at the dam end of the pond that is owned by the Town. Ms. Galazka is looking for state grants to have a consultant do a design plan for the path from the road to the pond that is ADA accessible. Ms. Bandrowicz suggests that at some point should see if the resident that owns the property at lot #151 would put a conservation restriction on that piece of their property that abuts the pond and is next to the town owned land.

**Action Item:** Marzie to continue working on grant/CIC funding for design plans.