

## **Open Space & Recreation Plan Committee Meeting – January 12, 2016 Minutes**

**Time:** 7:05 PM – 8:45 PM

**Location:** Town Hall Conference Room

**Members Present:** Mary Webster, Jim Olivetti, Toni Bandrowicz, Tania Lillak, Richard Smith & Sarah Pruett **Ex-Officios Present:** Recreation Director; Danielle Strauss, Town Planner; Pete Kane, Planning Board Chair; Angela Ippolito

**Present:** Town Residents: Patricia Jones, Alex Esteverena & Eric Ganezer

Mary brought the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Toni made motioned to accept the, Dec. 15, 2015, minutes. Tania seconded. All were in favor.

Patricia voiced her concern with regard to tree removal.

Gino signed the contract with SavATree. SavATree will take a detailed inventory of trees on town property. If a tree has to be removed, it will be replaced in kind.

Eric voiced his concern over the condition of the Superior playground.

Tania reported, at the meeting and in a follow up email, that Gino stated that there was enough money in the Open Space budget this year to improve Superior Park. Gino also felt there would be additional money for Windsor Park next year which allows for time to come up with a design.

Gino said that he and Danielle would go out to visit Superior Park on Monday to do a needs assessment. The items that need addressing are as follows:

- Replacing old equipment - similar to equipment at Hadley school
- Covering up the boulders under the swings
- Replacing the fabric on the fence
- Assessing the ability to provide extra lighting or a motion light
- Replacing the bench

Angela gave an update on White Court. The Historic Commission is working to have the property nominated to the National Historic Register. This would give the new owners eligibility for historic preservation tax credits. Susan Munafo is working to get interested parties together. There is a 10 foot easement to the shoreline on the Blythswood property line. If there was another 10 foot wide easement to the shoreline on the White Court property line, that would create an even more valuable open space amenity. A hotel is the best option to preserve the property. For a hotel to be eligible on the property, the zoning by laws would have to be amended.

Jim made a motion that the OSRP Committee vote to express our support of public access to the shoreline through the White Court property. Toni seconded. Motion passed.

Toni will report on the Ewing Woods Land Management Plan at our next meeting.

Tania presented an idea that we create a document that supports why open space is important in town. The document would contain supporting facts. Areas of concentration would be: health, environment, community, economy and beauty. Mary will create a Google Doc and send it out for members to add information.

Sarah reported that Chip Osborne has emailed dates that he would be available to give a presentation on Pesticide Awareness and Our Organic Option. Sarah met with the Board of Health and they recommended that if we have Chip we should have him speak in the HS auditorium. The auditorium is available March 30 and April 7. Sarah will follow up with the BoH and find out which date works best for them. All Town Boards, Committees and Selectmen and Town residents will be specifically notified about this event.

Pete reported on the Machon School property. The Town will release a 30 day RFP at the end of the month. Even though the RFP is going out, the Selectmen may decide to hold the property. Two stipulations are in place. 1) There will be open space in front of the building. 2) There will be a 20' wide path on the NW corner to access Jackson Park.

Pete reported that a team of 5 students from the Tufts University Graduate School Program of Urban & Environmental Policy & Planning are going to design a plan for Johnson Park improvements. There was a competitive vetting process. Pete and Angela through their presentations were successful in getting the Johnson Park project selected.

CPA – Mary will contact Nahant with regard to their process getting the CPA passed. She will start a Face book page.

At 8:45 PM, Jim made a motion to adjourn. Angela seconded. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Pruett, Secretary

Our next meeting is scheduled for Feb. 9, 2016