

Open Space & Recreation Plan Committee Meeting

May 12, 2020

Members Present: Tania Lillak (Chair), Tonia Bandrowicz (Vice Chair), Richard Smith, Angela Ippolito, Sarah Koch, Verena Karsten, Danielle Strauss (Recreation Director), Marzie Galazka (Dir Community & Economic Development), Molly O'Connell (Senior Planner)

Not present: Sierra Munoz

Tania Lillak calls the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

- 1) April 28, 2020 Meeting
 - a) Minutes were unanimously approved – Angela moved and Richard 2nd
 - b) Action Items:
 - i) Discussion of future of Swampscott Farmer's Market – it may be possible to open a modified market (drive through or distanced), tbd
 - ii) Stormwater/Greenscapes – Toni will discuss at next ConCom meeting and provide an update at the next meeting
- 2) 2020 Open Space Plan Update
 - a) Survey – up to 58 responses
 - b) Open House - maybe we can do a Zoom meeting instead of live
- 3) Community Development Update
 - a) Blythswood – handrail will be installed on easement, trees will be saved. Question whether the neighbor should be contacted to confirm easement
 - b) Johnson Park – waiting for Town Meeting to approve funding for consultant and design, hopefully Grant funds can assist in paying for reconstruction
 - c) Phillip and Cassidy Beaches (bath house) – Kleinfelder had discussion with planning board, stakeholders meeting in a few weeks to update design, \$25k dedicated to a bath house – should this money be spent on feasibility study with consideration to conservation issues?
Action Item: Toni to write a letter requesting monies be used for other purposes
 - d) 0 Archer – assessed price is \$34,000 and listed price is \$900,000, property about 5 acres, land is close to foster pond so it would be interesting to acquire, there are wetlands on the property. There is a another property to the north that would be great to acquire too. There are Land and Water grants we can apply for.
Action Item: Marzie to follow up with listing agents for both properties and research Land and Water grant.

- e) Foster Pond Land – Toni still communicating with Aggregate, but COVID may delay movement on this potential acquisition
- 4) Tree Task Force – meeting last week, by-law sent to Town Council then will be sent to Town Meeting for approval 6/22, street tree inventory data has coordinates therefore it can now be added into Town's GIS map, received 10-mile tree health grant, looking into memorial tree program- where would they go?
- 5) School Building Committee – next public forum is via Zoom on 5/19 focusing on energy & sustainability
- 6) Conservation Commission – northstone Beach Bluff
- 7) Green Corridor – generally wider sidewalks and more trees are needed to build out, look at overlapping with complete streets efforts

Action Item: Toni will look into green infrastructure (permeable sidewalks, rain gardens, etc)

Action Item: Marzie to send traffic study to see if we can overlap with safety recommendations on the green corridor route

Action Item: Tania to start putting together a policy/paper as a Town guideline for the Green Corridor.

8) Organic Lawn Management

- a) Toni wrote article on Pesticides – f/u article (safe outdoor rec in time of COVID)
- b) Share petition: <https://www.change.org/OrganicSwampscott>
- c) Gino takes pride in fields – timely if sports fields are not being played on this summer
- d) Education component – send handout to Town Meeting members?
- e) TURI grant – June 22nd submission, support letters (Marzie to review, assist)
- f) Use Chip Osborne as a resource

Action Item: Sarah to send Marzie TURI grant information

9) Rail Trail – 5/22 bid opening beach bluff to MHD line

Next meeting is Tuesday June 9, 2020 Via zoom

Toni moved to adjourn, Angela seconded. Adjourned at 8:46 pm
Minutes taken by Sarah Koch