

Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee Meeting MINUTES November 8, 2022

Members Present: Tania Lillak (Chair), Toni Bandrowicz, Richard Smith (Historical Commission), Steve Banks, Sierra Muñoz, Brian Longin, Angela Ippolito, Verena Karsten.

Public Present: None

Meeting called to order and recording started at 7:05 pm

1. Minute taker assignment: Richard Smith

2. Public Comment: None

3. Rights of Ways, Paper Streets, Public Ways & Easements:

Toni sent a message to Marzie on issues that KP Law needs to address. Branding and wayfinding signage- can a consultant be hired? Toni sent the letter supporting the signage program to identify rights of way. Ask Gino and Dick Simmons for assistance in researching ownership? Steve has compiled a spreadsheet and word document with descriptions of the rights of way. Angela, Steve and Toni will form a task force.

Action Item: Tania to send an email re: starting a ROW Task Force

4. Approval of minutes from October 11, 2022: Sierra moved to approve, Steve seconded, unanimously approved.

5. Updates/Action items from last meeting's minutes

Student intern project: 3-4 students are interested; Brian is coordinating a coffee meeting to discuss what they might do. A tree walk is potentially part of the student action list.

Goal 46. 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 to meet on re: town improvement policy

Goal 47. Public access/management plan, including interpretive signage: Toni is working on it. May require a phone call to Marzie.

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

Action Item: Angela to call Marzie re: Humphrey Street sidewalks

Goal 51 Programmed areas for beach activities: Tania still has to talk to the recreation director.

Action Item: Tania to email Danielle re: beach activity programming needs

Goal 53 Kayak storage: Steve spoke to Gino Cresta- 120 spaces in racks now. Rack was installed at the far end of Fisherman's Beach but was removed because of neighbor objections. Could it be put at Polisson Park or the New Ocean House Park? In the parking lot at Fishermans? Family permit ? Rack can fit 2 or 3 kayaks in the slots. (Richard saw several slots in the rack at the Fish House with multiple kayaks).

Action Item: Steve to contact Gino again to revisit plans for more storage
GINO NOT GOTTEN BACK

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.

6. New Business

None

7. OSRP Airtable Review

Goal 56: ADA accessible beach mats: These have been installed at Phillips and Cassidy beach. There is an issue with the Fisherman's beach entrance, where removal of sand on the beach has left a dropoff at the end of the duckboards.

Action Item: Mark as completed; monitor situation at Fishermans.

Goal 57: Advocate for CPA- what is the current state match?

Action Item: Tania to contact Aaron Berdofe to see if he is still interested in helping with the CPA

Goal 58: Review final ADA transition plan. Ties into #46.

Action Item: Tania will contact Molly about what this plan is

Goal 59: Work with Harbor and Waterfront Committee to support waterfront plan. Harbor and Waterfront has gotten pushback from the state and federal regulators. The pier has been a focus, and CZM has questioned the scale of this and the breakwater proposal. Work is mostly done at Phillips Beach, and the public toilets at the Fish House have been made accessible.

Goal 60: Work with Swampscott for All Ages when parks are updated.

Action Item: Tania will email Swampscott for All Ages to determine recreation needs

8. Green Corridor

Signage- will a graphic designer be hired? Toni will call Marzie to check on status of hiring the consultant and Gino on his plans for work on streets and sidewalks designated as Green Corridor streets.

Action Item: Toni will contact Gino re: Green Corridor

9. Abbot Park triangle

Basketball at Clark/Abbott Park was resurfaced. Corner to remain green space- Seating? Passive play? Can the chain link fence be replaced with something nicer?

A landscape architect will be redesigning the fenced off grassy area that has the rock monument on it. One possibility is a tree hedge to separate the park from the Paradise Road traffic. Agreement from the committee that we preferred the space to remain passive with no water features or play structures.

Action Item: Tania to email Marzie re: OSRPC preferences.

10. Swampscott Conservancy update - Sierra/Toni

Conservancy led Trails and Sails events last month. Steve Young's 10/12 talk about climate change has been recorded and is available on Youtube. Climate Action Resilience Plan Committee is developing a climate resilience plan; Gerry Falco did a Zoom presentation. They are doing a community survey this month.

11. School Building Committee – Met last week. Stanley school demolition is complete. The general contract bids are in, and the SBC hopes to sign a contract shortly. Pre-blast survey needs to start; they hope to have a GC signed on by mid November.

12. Committee/Department update - Tree Committee, Verena, via email

Tree Advisory Committee met 11/1. Fall planting is done; 26 trees, including 6 on the Town Hall property

- 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.
- Emerald ash borer has been found in town.
- Canopy study: Two Salem State students will compare canopy coverage in photos to identify canopy loss over time.
- Abbot Park- Consider tree hedges along Paradise Road and Norfolk Ave.

13. Committee/Department update – Conservation - Toni

ConCom is working on revising the use rules for Linscott Park. Waiting for the Rail Trail proposal to come back to the Commission.

14. Committee/Department update – Historical - Richard

Several members of the Historical Commission attended a walkthrough of the General Glover property to identify historical concerns and items the Commission would like to see preserved. The Commission sponsored a well attended lecture on indigenous people in northeastern Massachusetts on Oct 20, and there will be a second program on Saturday Nov 12 at the library.

15. Planning Commission update- Angela

The proposal for the General Glover Inn property is currently being reviewed. The Planning Commission needs comments from Town boards and departments by Monday. There will be a Planning Board meeting that night with a public hearing.

16. Committee/Department update – Recreation - Danielle

No update

17. Other business

None

18. Confirmation of next meeting date – December 13, 2022