

Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee Meeting MINUTES – May 11, 2021

Members Present: Tania Lillak (Chair), Toni Bandrowicz (Vice Chair), Richard Smith, Michele Barden, Sierra Muñoz, Angela Ippolito (Planning Board Rep), Danielle Strauss (Recreation Director), Molly O’Connell (Senior Planner)

Not Present: Marzie Galazka

Public: Gayle Stoll, Jill Susarrey, and Martha Dansdill

Meeting called to order at 7:36 pm by Tania Lillak

1. **Minute taker:** Michele Barden
2. **Public Comment:** Gayle Stoll attended the meeting to find out if there were any updates on Johnson Park. Survey Work is in progress. Estimate that survey work should be complete next week. Hopefully, more info by the next meeting.
3. **Approval of minutes from April 13, 2021:** Committee unanimously voted to adopt the April 13, 2021 minutes. Toni moved to accept, Richard seconded.
4. **Action Items from Last Meeting’s Minutes:**

Item #2: King’s Beach – Richard – Railing is an existing condition, so no changes are required. Sea wall in process. DCR will not take over until the seawall is done.

Open item.

Item #3: Ridge Trail at Harold King Forest has been blazed by the Girl Scouts.

Action Item: Ribbon cutting on June 5th. Toni is working on a commendation from the Select Board for the Girl Scouts.

Goal #6: Toni will continue to work with Dan Proulx on “developing and publishing information on human interaction with wildlife.

Action Item: add to AirTable

Item #4 – Angela found item (brochure) about Monument Ave. and Olmsted’s vision and desire for unobstructed views.

Action Item: Angela will send to committee. Richard to send to Historical Commission.

Item #7 – Design and Maintenance Guidelines for roads, paths, islands and lighting (Add special emphasis on developing design guidelines in Olmsted District). Michele has researched existing plans and will now dig deeper.

Action Item: Tania and Michele (others welcome) to walk Monument Ave. and Olmsted District to brainstorm.

Item #8 – Develop a map highlighting areas where zoning regulations should be created to limit negative impact of landuse development. Open space zoning may provide more protection than current zoning.

Action Item: More research needs to be done. Molly and Angela will work on in the fall.

Item #9 – Develop park landscaping utilizing beach-appropriate and environmentally-suitable species and materials. Specific references to Polisson, Chaisson and Johnson Parks. Waiting for Johnson Park.

Item #10 – Develop plan for replacement of aged/ailing street trees

- \$40,000 for tree planting is in Town Budget for YE22 and hope to be approved.
- Town Hall replacement tree voting, and fundraiser is still ongoing. Goals are to finish in May and plant the tree in June.
- Heritage Tree Project for Town Hall: RFQ was sent to 3 companies, waiting to hear back.
- Brochure/flyer for commemorative tree program is almost final and plan is to distribute at Town Hall, funeral homes and churches.
- Updating tree inventory is the next focus. We have all the information to delete tree we lost and update with trees that were newly planted since 2016.

Item #11 – Maintenance list for all school and town playgrounds.

Action Item: Toni to send list, if she finds it. Tania will as well.

Item #12 – Trail Maps. Angela showed Marblehead map.

Action Item: Look into quote to hire someone to develop a map. Molly to talk to Marzie.

Item #14 – Disability Commission, ADA transition plan as part of Open Space Plan.

Action Item: No update yet from Select Board. Molly to find out status of Disability Commission

5. New business

- a. **Lilac Garden** – Maintenance issues. John McLaughlin said on Facebook that the bushes should be cut-down to 6". It is an OSRPC goal to maintain that space. Elizabeth Smith volunteered to help with pruning and care. Angela suggested getting a little grant (\$5000) to hire someone to get it in shape.

Action Item: Tania to get back to Elizabeth Smith.

b. Town Warrant – Open Space-related Articles

- Windsor Park Capital Project – funding is secured so capital spending will be reimbursed.
- Accepting private ways as public roads.
- Transfer of money to new conservation fund that will be managed by the Conservation Commission. Funds are the interest from conservation fees and can be used for maintenance activities such as trail maintenance. Not coming from general funds.
- \$100,000 for Harbor Waterfront Plan Projects. Already have \$80,000 grant for pier work, \$20,000 match is needed. At FinCom Meeting, the \$100,000 was portrayed as more for a feasibility study for the plan. FinCom voted to recommend the \$20,000 for the grant match and the \$80,000 for design was not recommended by FinCom.
- Zoning Changes – Open Space – clarification of percentage calculation. Others are changes to clarify common confusions. Regulates pools as structures. Administration of procedures. Building coverage definition as footprint. Edits to language in warrant to be coming.

6. Hadley Re-Use Committee update

Motion to appoint Michele to committee, after Verena stepped down. Motion to appoint by Sierra and seconded by Angela.

Conservation Restriction on Hadley area to wait until after Town Meeting.

7. OSRP Airtable Review – Goals 16-20 – Tabled, due to time.
8. 2020 OSRPC – Molly made all edits requested. Changes to Action Plan, matches AirTable. Edits to maps. Add section to compliance with State Plan. Added an Action Item – Hadley keep a playground on site or nearby. Cliffside Street may be private and might need to be removed from right of way. Angela says to leave in until more definitive information. Molly asks for Review of Action Plan and comments to her. She plans on sending back to State by next Friday.
9. Conservation Restriction – Jackson Woods (?)

10. Green Corridor - Tabled

11. Community Development

Johnson Park – we continue to work with our consultant on the survey work. Estimate that survey work should be completed by next week.

Windsor Playground public meeting will be held on May 26, 2021 via zoom. Log in:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://swampscottma.zoom.us/j/98859303377?pwd=UEhIT3JzU3dpN281OGtXL3hrVkhCZz09>

Meeting ID: 988 5930 3377

Passcode: 920526

One tap mobile

+13126266799

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 988 5930 3377

Find your local number: <https://swampscottma.zoom.us/j/98859303377?pwd=UEhIT3JzU3dpN281OGtXL3hrVkhCZz09>

Rail Trail - top layer of stone dust and landscaping work will be done this month. We are planning a grant opening for June. More detail will be forthcoming once date is confirmed.

Clark School playground – As part of the FY21 budget we requested funding for design of the Clark School playground and the corner that has the historic marker. We welcomed input for this park, as we will be seeking grant funds, and town funding for rehabilitation of this highly used playground.

Phillips Beach – no update

Walker Road – no update

12. Task Force update – School Building Committee

No sustainability subcommittee meeting since last OSRPC meeting

Schematic design submitted to SBA on May 5, 2021. SBA voting is not until June.

Budget request in Warrant is \$114M, current cost is \$97.5M.

13. Task Force update – Tree Advisory

Met May 6. Waiting on budget. Replacement tree for town hall still on web site.

Heritage Tree Project for Town Hall

Brochure and Flyer for memorial trees is almost final

Finalizing plan for tree inventory.

14. Task Force update – Organic Lawn Management update – no update

15. Swampscott Conservancy update

Ribbon Cutting and hikes on June 5th at Harold King Forest. (Suzanne Hale Girl Scout Leader) Citation for Girl Scouts.

Richard Frankel and author. Doing hike around Spring Pond, Peabody on May 15. Met with SBC and consultant on behalf Swampscott Conservancy, Conservation Commission, Open Space.

Signs being installed in the cemetery directing to dog park and the connector

16. Committee/Department update – ConCom – no updates

17. Rail Trail – Rail trail cleanup June 6 (rain date June 13). Meeting at SMS abd doing segment to Humphrey Street. June is National Trails Month.

18. Committee/Department update – Historical

No updates

19. Committee/Department update – Planning – See above

20. Committee/Department update – Recreation

Farmer's Market Opening Day, June 13th. Talking of moving it onto the street. Danielle met with Marzie and Gino. Concern that Farmer's Market is destroying the grass. Conservancy native plant sale at the opening.

21. Confirmation of next meeting date – Tuesday, June 8, 2021

22. Motion to Adjourn 8:55 PM.