

Open Space and Recreation Committee Meeting MINUTES- August 10, 2021

Members present: Tania Lillak (chair), Toni Bandrowicz (Vice Chair), Richard Smith, Sierra Munoz, Angela Ippolito, Molly O'Connell (Senior planner)

Location: Pollinator Garden at Town Hall

Visitor: Brian Longin

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Tania Lillak

1. **Minute taker:** Richard Smith
2. **Public comment:** none present.
3. **Approval of minutes June 8 meeting:** notes were approved unanimously. July 13 notes- no quorum.
4. **Action items from previous meeting:** OSRP items #11 Playground maintenance- status? Molly is talking to DPW director. Planning on a quarterly checklist. #29 Install unified signage- Swampscott can use Beverly signage designs as a basis. Molly getting pricing for pole banners- install instead of planters?
5. **New business:** none
6. **New member search:** A potential new member attended- Brian Longin . Marblehead native, experience in government work, moved back to this area after extended period living away. Interest in learning about Swampscott and how local government works.
7. **Air table 16-20:**
 16. Winter salt management: DPW director says police decide when to salt. Are the most environmentally friendly procedures being used?
 17. Rail trail.
 18. Tree inventory: being updated by tree task force.
 19. Foster Pond access: Town earth removal permit conditions has put access thru Aggregate property on hold for now. Use town owned property at head of pond? Is there an accessibility problem there? Limited space.

Action Item: Toni to follow up with town counsel to see about ADA access at head of pond.

 20. King's beach extension of NR designation from Lynn line to Red Rock: Angela has located missing files. Can use to put together application.

Action Item: Angela to provide NR designation information to committee.
8. **Public way signs:** A plan is in place to use Beverly's signage as a model. Molly is contacting sign maker.

Action Item: Determine where the public signs should be next meeting.
9. **School project:** New building footprint is 3x bigger than existing. Tree buffer- neighbor concerns. 12,000 sf playground plus rain gardens and a U-10 playing field. Environmental issues need to be addressed. SBC has had an initial meeting with SC, OSRPC and ConCom, but has not set up a second meeting. How many of the issues have been

addressed in the design? Is site big enough for 900 kids? Needs to accommodate playground and playing field. Environmental education using Ewing Woods has potential, but what kinds of impacts on the open space? Can school provide indoor community activities? How much open space is being lost for this project?

Action Item: Toni to follow up with SBC regarding open space issues. Sierra to find out actual square foot numbers of current open space vs future open space.

10. Conservation restriction- Jackson Woods: Molly will be working with Essex Greenbelt to set up CR. Revisit in December.

11. Green Corridor: on hold.

12. Community Development: The Elm Place developers will apply for permits this fall. 41 Spinale and Archer Street (2 properties) could potentially become open space as part of a deal as an environmental offset. Spinale is near Elm Place. OSRPC to draft letter to select board proposing this. Link to climate change, lack of public open space in this part of town.

Action Item: Toni to draft letter to Select Board regarding Elm Place.

13. Tree Advisory task force: no update.

14. Hadley Reuse Committee: in wrapup phase, writing report.

15. Swampscott Conservancy: SC is planning another eelgrass family event in late August. They are scheduling speakers on extreme weather, environmental justice. Biweekly hikes with Richard Frankel. Beach tee shirts.

16. Conservation Commission: to meet regarding Rail Trail possibly in September.

17. Rail Trail: working on funding for rail trail, federal funding eligibility.

18. Historical Commission: First interpretive signs have been approved for fabrication. These can be the template for signage key open space properties. Need to determine priority locations. HC will be setting up an exhibit in the old selectmen's meeting room at town hall.

Action Item: Determine where interpretative signs should be next meeting.

19. Planning: Coordination of town boards on priorities for projects.

20. Recreation Department update: None

21. Other business: There is some interest in exploring Town exercising its first refusal rights for the purchase of Blytheswood. How could the property be managed? Could town buy it and have an outside manager run it? Trail on easement has been started. Is this the time to move on purchase? Probably will be put up for sale in the next five years.

22. Confirmation of next meeting date: Sept 14. The special town meeting on the elementary school project is the night before- will that be done in one night?