

Yarmouth Parks & Lands Committee

MEETING MINUTES – DRAFT

Date: May 2, 2018

Time: 6- 7:45 pm

Monthly meeting

FLEX Room, Yarmouth High School

Chair: Jay Waterman

Notes taken by: Mary Webber

Committee members 2018:

Karen Massey (2018)(excused)

Mary Webber (2018)

Lisa Small (2019)

Mary Thorp (2019)

Jay Waterman (2019)

Richard Brimberg (2020)

Vacancy (2020)

Town Council, Staff & Guests:

Karyn MacNeill, YCS Director

David Craig, Council Liaison

Alan Stearns, RRCT Exec. Dir.

* Call to Order, 6:05 pm

*1.) Introductions and welcome for guests and members

*2.) Acceptance of April's Minutes – Moved by Lisa, seconded by Mary T., unanimous.

*3.) Update on October storm damage. Karyn - Levasseur Landscaping Co. has been back at Pratt's Brook Park, trail surface back to usable. Culvert to be done. 5 more trees down in April storm.

Cleaves St. trail has been resurfaced, Jay questioning heavy vehicles used to clear downed trees here and at PBP. Discussion of drainage issues at Cleaves St.

Alan - two concerns about Spear Farm, the need for a forestry evaluation (and possibly a forestry manager) for that property as he feels the forest there is unhealthy. He noted it's hard to get professional interest in such a small preserve. Alan might be able to garner private donations to fund this work. Secondly, he brought up not mowing so close to the pond.

Richard – do we need to re-think management plan? More discussion of mowing around pond, parking lot, leaving the patch of milkweed untouched. The barn, pretty well emptied out, replacement unlikely as no funds available. Suggested tabling forestry work for further discussion.

*4.) Riverfront Woods Preserve CE Draft discussion

Alan – Not yet reviewed by attorney, but expected to be shortly. Alan doesn't see much more to do more with the CE, need to move on to management plan. Suggested we take from the \$20,000 from community funds for a consultant, scope of work mostly trail location/design. Recommended Forrest Bell.

Lisa – Snowmobiling not prohibited in CE. Jay feels it can be addressed adequately in management plan.

Discussion of public meeting on June 6th. Make more celebratory. Seek input on both the CE and MP. Defer discussion of prohibiting snowmobiles in CE until after public meeting.

Alan – Yarmouth Elementary School site wetlands being evaluated with possible school expansion in mind. May generate some trade-off \$\$ from Army Corp of Engineers. Possible uses considered keeping in mind that any such funds would need to be used, not escrowed.

*5) Open Space sub group update

Lisa – Task Force has checked Open Space models from nearby towns, has done an outline based on the plan from Harpswell. Lisa covered contents from detailed inventory of current town open spaces to focus areas, strategies, mapping, implementing, etc.

Jay – While we agree to preserve what we want to save, we also need to consider where orderly, integrated development can fit. Suggested this be addressed by Open Space group.

*6) Work Plan for Town Council

Karyn had sent a printout of what we decided at last meeting, which was acceptable to all.

Richard – do we need completion dates for Riverfront Woods? Still open until actual purchase.

Jay – possibly add new projects informally to work list including Camp Soci MP (Karyn will circulate what's already been developed by Jamie), and a forestry report.

*7) New Item

Karyn – road to Porta Potties at RRP being resurfaced, adding 3 new handicapped parking spaces, stonedust-type path to shelter/picnic area.

* 9) Adjournment – 7:45

Mary T. moved, Lisa seconded. Unanimous.