

Parks and Lands Committee
Nov. 7, 2018
Town Hall, Community Room

Attendance:

Karen Massey
Mary Thorp
Richard Brimberg
Jay Waterman
Lisa Small

Staff:

Karyn MacNeill
Erik Donohoe

Guests:

Dan Ostrye, Susan Prescott, Sharon McHold

Call to order 6:05pm

October minutes accepted (motion Lisa/ second Richard)-passed unanimously

Maggie May Subdivision (Sharon McHold- gave phone number 846-XXXX)

- Stressed that there is supposed to be a public benefit; showed pictures
- 50 ft. strip leading to back acreage (8 acres?) talked about the developers needing to make the trail and also to maintain
- currently no parking
- encourages Parks and Lands Committee to get involved.

Riverfront Woods update (Richard and Erik)

- Led discussion on how to present management plan to council
- Re hunting- needs to be clearly delineated. Also there are concerns about restriction when using LMF funds
- Management plan encompasses 3 properties
- Suggestion that Beth Sturtevant be asked to be on the subcommittee
- Karen Massey stated that the chart was very helpful. She also submitted suggestions to Richard on edits

Open Space Work Projects (Erik)

- Had open space work day with short notice (5 people); hoping to schedule a couple more
- Pratt's- 2x 20ft. culverts. Geoff Shallard re-involved. Did temporary fixes on several drainage issues
- Fels-Grove- Doug Hermann- helper. The bridge that suffered damage is safe enough until spring. Will need permitting.
- Installed some signs at Pratt's and Royal River Park ex. dog signs
- Tree issues on Tenney access and on West Side trail
- Spear Farm- Doug and Erik repaired boardwalks
- Did community garden work ex. removing invasives, mowing
- Jay pondered about the idea of "champions" for each park (?)

Latchstring Park (Susan Prescott)

- Recent work day with 10 volunteers. Removed debris, trash, invasives
- Attempting to reclaim the space
- Voiced concerns over traffic and use of park as a cut-through. Also very concerned about Coastal Manor expansion and impingement on Latchstring.
Coastal plan goes before next Wed. planning board.

- Jay will draft a paragraph and send it around to the committee expressing our hopes for and concerns about Latchstring .

Open Space Task Force update (Karen Massey)

There is a workday scheduled to bring out a draft.

Train Depot and Village Green

- Prospective buyers have submitted plan
- Discussion of National Parks 6F designation and properties that could be involved in an exchange- of the list submitted by Karyn MacNeill only 1 qualified (Old Ledge School property (?))

Trail Update (Dan Ostrye)- Bike/Pedestrian Committee

- Cousins River Bridge Project- multi-use path along with Bayview and Exit 15 bridge projects (under review). Advocating for sidewalks for both
- Main Streetscape Planning- need grant to fund this; reconfigured ADA ramp to Route 1 with a landing; mentioned Latchstring Park initiatives
- West Side Trail: (new maps will be forthcoming)

Phase 1: workday with Erik and Doug

Phase 2: moving ahead

- License in place
- Must start construction next Spring
- Now looking at annual inspections of all bridges
- Fundraising is KEY to moving project forward

Crosstown Path- trail along rail line (East Elm to train depot)

Route One

- Exit 17 PDR- extension of Beth Condon Pathway
- Sidewalk extension (towards YMCA)
- Parking issues down to Muddy Rudder (police are signing)
- Complete Streets Priorities

Other business:

- Attended state initiative on trail planning
- Crosswalk at Maples??
- West Main St. being redone to Sligo Rd.
- Jay reminded committee that signage needs to be consistent

Parks and Lands committee is in agreement that a work plan and letter be sent to the Town Council with a reminder about our work on Riverfront Woods and the Pratt's Brook Management Plan. AND that we still have a vacancy on Parks and Lands that has not been filled.

Meeting adjourns at 8:16 (Karen moved/ Richard seconded) Unanimous.