

Yarmouth Parks & Lands Committee
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES – DRAFT

Date: January 2, 2019

Time: 6:03 – 7:45 pm

Location: Community Room, Town Hall

Chair: Jay Waterman

Committee members:

Karen Massey (2018)

Mary Webber (2021)

Lisa Small (2019)

Mary Thorp (2019)

Jay Waterman (2021)

Richard Brimberg (2020) Excused

Ebrahim Fazeli (2020)

Notes taken by: Mary Webber

Town Council, Staff & Guests:

Karyn MacNeill, YCS Director

Erik Donohoe, Parks Specialist

Alan Stearns, RRCT Exec. Dir.

Beth Sturtevant, RRCT Board Member

Tim Shannon, Council Liaison (Absent)

Helpful abbreviations and acronyms:

FGFP – Fels-Groves Farm Preserve

FKF – Frank Knight Forest

PBP – Pratt’s Brook Park

PLC – Parks & Lands Committee

RWP – Riverfront Woods Preserve

SFEP – Spear Farm Estuary Preserve

WST – West Side Trail

* Call to Order, 6:03 pm

1) Introductions, welcome Alan and Beth.

2) November minutes acceptance, moved by Karen, 2nd by Lisa, unanimous.

December minutes acceptance, with spelling correction, moved by Karen, 2nd, Mary T., unanimous.

3) Update on **Riverfront Woods Preserve**. Reviewed, discussed Interim Management Plan, Erik noting that the Conservation Easement is comprehensive and is heavily referenced. Erik will add clarifying paragraph to text regarding the Appendices. Appendix A refers only to Barker and Dugas parcels.

Erik will add introduction of Appendix B, explaining temporary nature of prohibitions of hunting, dogs, bikes, and snowmobile, citing unfinished site work at Riverfront Woods Preserve. He will also explain that these prohibitions, recommendations, not actions, may or may not be made permanent later, depending on public input and on the will of the Town Council.

An overlay map of areas where hunting might be possible was discussed as needed to address Lands for Maine’s Future’s support of hunting on funded lands.

Hour (if needed), 6-7, will be set aside at Parks and Lands Committee meeting on February 6th for public input on the Interim Management Plan. Town Council will be asked at the Parks and Lands Committee meeting with them on February 10th to set a voting meeting on the Plan, hopefully later in February.

4) Erik, has worked on open space projects including invasives clearing at Yarmouth Community Garden.

5) **Open Space Task Force** – Josh Royte will join us for a presentation at February meeting after public input On Riverfront Woods Preserve Interim Management Plan.

6) Project updates- **Train Depot** – Village Improvement Society and Gorham Savings Bank are offering some funding for park renovation. **Latchstring Park** – no update. **Streetscape** plan posted at Town Hall with room for public comment. A further public meeting is being planned.

7) Meeting with **Town Council** on January 10 - our agenda will be built from work plan, will include lobbying for more/more consistent land acquisition funding, improved liaison communication with Council, and action on Pratt's Brook Management Plan. Lisa will put together a one-page "leave behind" of our agenda and talking points.

8) Upcoming projects/considerations – **Forestry Management Plan** – Karyn will meet with Paul Larabee as his schedule allows. **Village Run trail/path** – Erik will meet with Matt Teare regarding signage. Discussion of need for comprehensive sign standards for signage around and in town-owned Parks and Lands parcels. Lisa and Mary W will work with Karyn on this. **Maggie May trail** – not much movement on this. **Off-leash Dog Park** – will ask for Town Council support of pursuing this at January 10th meeting.

9) Motion to adjourn, Karen, seconded, Mary T., unanimous. Adjourned at 7:45