

Yarmouth Parks & Lands Committee

MEETING MINUTES – DRAFT

Date: December 5, 2018

Time: 6:02 – 7:36 pm

Monthly meeting

Community Room Town Hall

Chair: Jay Waterman

Committee members:

Karen Massey (2018)

Mary Webber (2021)

Lisa Small (2019)

Mary Thorp (2019)

Jay Waterman (2021) Excused, 6:49

Richard Brimberg (2020)

Ebrahim Fazeli (2020)

Notes taken by: Mary Webber

Town Council, Staff & Guests:

Karyn MacNeill, YCS Director

Erik Donohoe, Parks Specialist

Susan Prescott, Latchstring Park

Tim Shannon, Council Liaison (Absent)

* Call to Order, 6:02 pm

1) Introductions, welcome new member Ebrahim Fazeli, welcome Susan Prescott, Latchstring advocate. YCS Staff handed out Open Space Matrix – a cursory draft of many properties.

2) October minutes acceptance moved to January

3) Update on RFW. Richard has reviewed many documents, subcommittee will discuss. Erik – RRCT will work with YCS staff to approve a fast-track interim MP and accept piecemeal implementation. Erik/Karyn will prepare two-page MP to review at P&L's meeting with Town Council, January 10th. Feb. 6th P&L meeting will be open to public comment on this property.

4) Erik, has worked on open space projects including bittersweet control, drainage improvements at Spear Farm. Getting bridge repair estimates (3 bridges) from contractors, John Daigle will clear invasives at YCG.

5) **Open Space Task Force** will meet Dec. 15, Private home from 10am-4pm to put into writing all the details worked out thus far.

6) Project updates- **Train Depot** – Proposed “Gorham” sign not allowed by Maine Preservation, probable F6 conversion site will be behind twin brick schoolhouses on West Main. **Latchstring Park** – final vote from PB expected Jan. 23. **Streetscape** meeting well attended, plan under review, focuses will be sidewalks, lighting, beautification, improved intersections, and possibly revised traffic patterns.

PLC discussed Dugas Construction's project and the importance of being on top of these type of items as they come before the town.

Planning Board is interested in meeting to discuss staff and PLC goals for parks and open spaces. Chair of PB commented at 11/28/18 mtg that it would be in everyone's best interest to partner together.

7) **Pratt's Brook Park** – Management Plan – Karyn/Erik - Geoff Shallard had communicated concerns about hunting in the park, highly visible with early snow. Reminded P&L that deeds prohibit hunting on two parcels in park. Erik shared new signage to reflect that, all agreed that this new info must be added to the MP. P&L will seek further direction on long-delayed approval of MP from TC at Jan. 10th meeting.

Mary W. reminded all of the importance of having sign protocols for parks, open spaces, and misc. locations. A couple things to keep in mind: font design and color(s) should be uniform. Density and size of signage should vary depending on the location and its use.

8) Upcoming projects/considerations - Karyn - Forestry Management Plan for Spear Farm MUST be in place before old storm damage can be cleared. P&L wants to go ahead at staff level on this. **Village Run trail/path** - nothing new. **Maggie May trail** – not much movement on this. **Off-leash Dog Park** – Karyn/Mary W– Motion by Karen, second by Richard, unanimous (Jay absent) to support pursuing this project and establishing an off leash dog park. Mary will draft piece for local media/papers soliciting input, support. Need others involved before setting up a Bark Park LLC

9) Work plan for Town Council – will discuss at Jan. 2 meeting. And share at Jan 10th Council meeting

10) Other - \$50,000 grant available, matching funds needed. Karyn introduced a Chili and Chowder Cook-off fundraiser to be held June 15th before YCS' first movie night of the summer. Need sponsors, cooks.

11) Motion to adjourn, Mary W., seconded by Richard. Unanimous. Adjourned at 7:36