

Yarmouth Parks and Lands  
Meeting minutes  
June 1, 2022

Committee members:

Karyn MacNeill, YCS Director  
Tim Shannon, Council Liaison  
Erik Donohoe, Parks Specialist

Mary Thorp (2022)  
Ron Dupuis (2024), chair  
Vance Brown (2023)  
Clyde Hodgkin (2023)-abs.  
Lisa Small (2022)  
Joe Noel (2024)  
Josh Royte (2024)

Ron calls the meeting to order at 6:02pm.  
Review of May minutes. Lisa motions, Josh seconds. Unanimous.

**Erik updates:**

Spear Farm boardwalk-permitting process underway. Josh suggests signage to “be careful on the marsh”. Erik will look at moving current trail sign.

Pratt’s- has seen increased horse use and damage to some trails early in the year. Will use targeted mailing to local horse owners. Mary and Josh are surprised that it is an allowed use.

Karyn feels the issue may need person-to-person outreach. Vance asks about signage during the wet season. Erik does not want to post and invite others. Joe asks about “foot traffic only” signs. Karyn mentions “think before you sink”. Josh likes the “reach-out”.

Erik plans for improvements to the Otter Trail (bypass to Kangaroo). It is a rocky area with steep approaches and unguided. It is getting sprawl. This fall, hopes to use black locust (which needs removal) for rails across the trails. Mary inquires how many trees? Erik says 5 to 10 smaller trees. Lisa will take to tree committee.

**Karyn updates:**

Tree committee will meet with planning board next week.

There is a 5<sup>th</sup> submission of RR Square. Shepley and Weld want a change in lighting. 109 Sunset Point will be reviewed the end of June.

Planning Board is working on the Comp Plan review. Mini-meetings will start in June- plan consultant, surveys, Q and A sessions.

Tim stresses that the Comp Plan is a big deal and PLC needs to be vocal.

Karyn says we have given them all of our plans.

Josh suggests that parcel prioritization may be a good focus of this committee ahead of the process. Lisa agrees. Karyn asks if we think a subcommittee with a liaison is needed.

Josh says the parcel prioritization map is available and we should look at several factors: adding size to a current parcel, water access, climate change mitigation, etc. We need to reassess. Also should network with Freeport/Pownal/ NY/Cumberland. Vance asks about the times that a subcommittee would meet. Karyn states they will try to spread it out.

**Tree Committee:**

Lisa says the committee meets with the Planning Board on the 8<sup>th</sup>. Also, the committee has a meeting for June 2 to work on elevating consideration of trees and changes in priorities and increasing membership.

On the 10<sup>th</sup>, EAB treatment will occur. Tree committee has drafted an Arbor Day proclamation and a job description for the tree warden which will be published and is part-time.

School Tree project: recommendations are sycamore, tulip poplar.

Josh mentions tree tags and the importance of native species.

**Planning Board/Council updates:**

Ron has reached out to Erin about the process. And will also discuss follow-up on the checklist.

**New Business:**

Lisa walked the Hancock lumber site following the string marker on the side. There is a lot of salt and other debris. Voices concern that this is getting into Village Brook. Joe mentions photos and the recycling committee. Tim asks if it is a public waterway. Josh says that if Village Brook is classified as a stream, there are rules to be followed. Suggests connecting with Hancock for a cleanup- "adopt a brook"? Mary and Joe feel Hancock is generally responsive. Public works and recycling committee could join in. Ron will check it out.

Reminder: Tuesday is the Town annual meeting at YPAC at 7pm. The budget is voted on the week after.

Vance reiterates that a bike path by RR Square could be very valuable, especially if it linked to the Casco Trail network. Asks how to interface with regional planning. Tim states that there is council support.

Ron mentions the Latchstring Park thermometer is going up. The steps are fundraising-council approval- awarding contracts.

Mary motions to adjourn. Lisa seconds. Unanimous at 7:05 pm.