

Yarmouth Parks & Lands Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Date: June 7, 2017

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Monthly meeting

Yarmouth Town Hall, Community Room

To advise the Town Council, staff, boards, committees, and the public concerning the funding, acquisition, management, use, and disposition of town lands needed to implement the parks, trails, pedestrian easements, and open-space goals of the community; and to engage the town and public in stewardship, protection, and uses of the natural environment and ecosystems of Yarmouth through public education, shared responsibility and personal experience, and connection to the lands and waters of Yarmouth.

Chair: Tony Cowles

Notes taken by: Karyn MacNeill

Committee members 2017:

Jamie Carter
Mary Webber
Mary Thorp
Beth Sturtevant
Jay Waterman
Tony Cowles

Town Council, Staff & Guests:

David Craig, Council Liaison
Karyn MacNeill, Town staff

Alan Stearns, RRCT

- 6:05pm – Meeting called to order, by Tony Cowles
 - Introductions and welcome for guests and members
 - May 2017 Minutes: motion to accept minutes as written was offered by Mary Webber and 2nd by Mary Thorp. Unanimously approved.
- RRCT – Alan Stearns, discussion on Open Space Acquisition
 - Alan provided a summary of open space fundraising plan with RRCT
 - Co-chairs announced: Beth Sturtevant and Alan Stearns.
 - PLC Questions:
 - Should we be leaving \$ for future acquisitions. Pros and cons discussed.
 - Deed restrictions – less is best. Discussions on Grant restrictions might be req'd.
 - Creating a conservation easement on that property will/may begin quickly. It is important to get various experts involved in the CE process.
 - Reminder that volunteers who are helping to fundraise for a property alongside RRCT may not request money on behalf of the Town. In order to do so, permission from Council must be granted.
 - A question regarding any concerns whether there would be a situation where issues with the subdivision might hinder access to this riverfront parcel.
- Camp SOCI Management Plan introduction, outline work to be completed, assign tasks
 - Jamie has a Table of Contents draft for a Camp SOCI plan
 - Needs: current uses of property, concerns and issues of property, vegetation management, & bluff concerns.
 - Mary, Karyn, Jamie will continue to gather/update/input information and formulate a plan to reach out to interested parties for future discussions.
- Open Space property updates
 - Projects
 - A new bench will be going in at Spear Farm E.P. Bench protocol is in place and is currently working well. This will be the 2nd bench to be installed as a memorial.

- Brown Tail Moth – removals of nests were completed in early May at Camp SOCI. The infestation is pretty bad out there that camps are now being relocated to other locations to protect the camp participants.
- Sub-Committee Reports
 - Land Acquisition – talked about previously with RRCT lead.
 - PBP Signage – awaiting on installation.
 - Planning Board representation – Mary Thorp, Mary W, Jamie have been involved. Future meetings are covered and PLC will report back.
 - CPIC and Code changes – Jay would like to see PLC take a stand on Open Space as part of these current conversations. So far, nothing is included. A note from Ed Ashley will be re-circulated to the PLC for review.
 - Open Space Plan conversation – not discussed at this night.
 - Tinker Management Plan review – awaiting on a date to meet with Council and Karyn will reach out to the CILJIA as part of outreach.
- Adjourn

Important dates upcoming

July 5 – Summer Arts Series at Royal River Park

July 12 - Summer Arts Series at Royal River Park

July 19 - Summer Arts Series at Royal River Park

July 26 - Summer Arts Series at Royal River Park

7/5/2017 – ~~PLC Meeting (6-7:30pm)~~ cancelled

8/2/2017 – PLC Meeting