

Yarmouth Parks & Lands Committee

MEETING MINUTES

Date: December 6, 2017

Time: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Monthly meeting

IN THE WEST WING - *Temporary Location!*****

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:

Notes taken by:

Committee members 2017:

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

Town Council, Staff & Guests:

Karyn MacNeill, YCS Director
David Craig, Town Council Liaison
Guest: Alan Stearns

Excused: Karen Massey

- 6:03pm: **Call to Order** (Tony Cowles)
- Acceptance of **November’s Minutes** with corrections as recorded by Jay Waterman: Motion made by Mary Webber, 2nd by Mary Thorp – passed unanimously
 - A short discussion regarding the setting of agendas. Once a new Chair of PLC is elected, agendas can be determined and set by the Chair, Karyn, and PLC member input. More to be determined and discussed in 2018.
- **Dugas Property discussion** and update by Alan Stearns, RRCT, E.D.: for detailed information, please refer to Alan’s email dated 12/5/2017; fundraising is going strong; Alan suggests focus from PLC be 1.) on Maguire property and neighbor relations, 2.) LMF’s requirement for a Management Plan, 3.) basic visioning for the property, and 4.) developing a Conservation Easement. He has provided a copy of the CE for Knight’s Pond to PLC reps and town officials that will be passed along for comparison to Yarmouth properties such as Spear Farm and Fels Groves. Tony recommended that the CE and Management plans not be too restrictive. Mary W. asked where fundraising stands. Alan said that all RRCT documents are transparent and will be shared, however the goal is not yet reached. He will continue to work on the donations, reworking contributions that are not necessarily noted for Riverfront Woods, and will work with the Town to continue to move ahead with requirements for LMF (appraisals, other approvals, etc.).
- A brief discussion on appropriate **2018 Goal Setting**. PLC can reconvene once a full committee is appointed and a Chair nominated/elected.
- **West Side Trail** concerns: comments summarized the November meeting regarding WST bikes & signs.
- **Camp SOCI management plan** information has been passed on to Karyn by Jamie Carter.
- **Miscellaneous Reports:**
 - Trail Signage Uniformity: Mary Webber is awaiting replies from Bonny Eagle
 - Storm Damage update: YCS has been very involved in FEMA processes. There are multiple parcels damaged. Still awaiting FEMA process bids and quotes to clean up SFEP, Pratt’s, Cleaves Street trail. Many smaller pathways were just finished up this week. (*separately, Karyn has attached a summary for your review.)
 - Land Steward position: Karyn is still in conversation with Maine Conservation Corps for their partnership for a Land Steward contract for 900 hours, May through November 2018. Position

descriptions and details are still being looked into. Cumberland and Falmouth have been approached for a shared position of Land Steward. Falmouth hired a full-time person and Cumberland's hire is only interested in PT.

- Planning Board representation – Options were discussed regarding cancelling the PLC attendance at PB meetings or rejuvenating a different plan that reviews PB agendas beforehand.
- Open Space Plan conversation: Jamie summarized his involvement in an ad-hoc group that is taking a look at various considerations regarding Open Spaces in Yarmouth. Many of their conversations and projects may/will benefit the CPIC, PLC, PB, etc. This group is not meant to be seen as duplicative and will reach out to PLC with presentations.
- 7:35pm Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Mary Webber; second by Mary Thorp.

Respectfully submitted,
Karyn MacNeill

Important upcoming dates:

1/3/2018 – PLC Monthly Meeting
2/7/2018 – PLC Monthly Meeting
3/7/2018 – PLC Monthly Meeting