

***Yarmouth Parks & Lands Committee***

**MEETING MINUTES – DRAFT**

**Date: April 4, 2018**

**Time: 6- 7:50 pm**

**Monthly meeting**

**Town Hall, Community Room**

**Chair: Jay Waterman**

**Notes taken by: Mary Webber**

**Committee members 2018:**

Karen Massey (2018)

Mary Webber (2018)

Lisa Small (2019)

Mary Thorp (2019)

Jay Waterman (2019)

Richard Brimberg (2020)

Vacancy (2020)

**Town Council, Staff & Guests:**

Karyn MacNeill, YCS Director

David Craig, Council Liaison

Alan Stearns, RRCT Exec. Dir.

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\* Call to Order, 6:05 pm

\* 1.) Introductions and welcome for guests and members

\* 2.) Acceptance of March's Minutes – Moved by Richard, seconded Mary T., Jay abstained from vote as he was not at March meeting. All others in favor.

\* 3.) Town Council Rules – Volunteer Committees

David explained why council wants some idea of what we'll work on in coming year. Should we ask Council that they want us to do; new rules say council may direct.

Council has concerns about "self-appointed" committees, not official, sanctioned committees, whose members are appointed by council. Bike/ped, a sub-committee of PLC cited as example. Should we follow up with that sub-committee on a more regular (quarterly?) basis?

Richard said he has no problem with such committees as long as they do NOT represent themselves as representatives of the town.

Further discussion: "Open Space Task Force" sub-group was appointed by PLC at last meeting. Other sub-committees of PLC include Gardens, West Side Trail who do regularly report to PLC. Should we re-instate PLC annual planning meeting? Jay and Richard favored incorporating into regular meetings, Richard suggested we do our next-year planning in Nov-Dec. Consensus agreement.

4.) Riverfront Woods Preserve CE Draft discussion – Alan

Update: Planning Board meeting next week may be final on the Dugas' sub-division proposal. Alan, Nat Tupper, Karyn, and Mary met and reviewed CE (Lisa absent due to illness.). Nat brought up several issues which we agreed would be better addressed in management plan. Next step, CE review by lawyers. Discussion followed and included: Tension between proposed "primitive trails" and need for ADA, emergency, and maintenance access. Not wanting "primitive trail" access to any

possible future pedestrian bridge. Reviewed Vegetation Management section, removed express requirement of consultation/approval with RRCT. RRCT would review any forestry plan.

Karen asked why allow any (commercial) timber harvesting? Maybe pro-active, possible revenue considerations. Agreed to remove paragraph on timber harvesting, noting it's covered under tree and vegetation cutting.

Karyn feels PLC should inform/involve other stakeholders on the Riverfront Woods CE, neighbors, etc. as we have on other public property issues. Lawyers need to have document ready by first of May to get it out to the public. Karyn, Alan, Lisa and Mary W. will review once more. PLC will make the CE available online, invite public comment at June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, and plan to have PLC involvement with the CE finished by our July meeting, moved back to June 27, as the July meeting would fall on the 4<sup>th</sup>.

Briefly discussed working with CMP to possibly coordinate/cooperate on emergency/ maintenance access.

Karen mentioned moving SECTION III. B.'s last paragraph "The terms of the C.E. do not supersede or waive more restrictive applicable law and regulations." Karen recommended that this sentence/paragraph move to SECTION IV. General Terms & Standard Provisions. Will be reviewed.

\*5) Open Space sub group presentation and updates

Karyn reviewed Open Space plans and reminded us of the Open Space plans she had shared from nearby towns. Karyn will re-share. Jay questioned when we would bring in a consultant. Open Space group hoping to have draft in 10 months, maybe bring in consult then? The submitted request for funds for consulting work on this did not appear to be in the CIP, was not discussed at recent meeting. Karyn will check status and report at next meeting.

Noted an Open Space group meeting, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm, at Otto's. PLC members invited.

\*6) CPIC mini presentation to CPIC's annual round table discussions

Karyn shared her new graphic approach to YCS report for town's annual report. She also shared a sheet detailing the Parks and Lands Committee Highlights and Upcoming Goals and Dreams for 2018-2019 both of which she and Jay will share at the CPIC meeting.

Much discussion of #1, 2, 8 and 9 on the Goals sheet constituting a prefect "Work Plan" as expected by the Town Council under their new rules. Moved by Richard, seconded Mary T., Vote unanimous that those four items are our Work Plan for the coming year, and that David will present them to the Council in his report as liaison April 5<sup>th</sup>.

David also commended PLC for their foresight in maintaining a land acquisition fund, a key contribution from the town in support of the Riverfront Woods project.

Ed Ashley provided written updated CPIC strategies report tying PLC accomplishments to those comprehensive plan strategies.

\*7) Land Steward Position discussion

Focused on timing of the anticipated Land Steward position, and that person's assignments. Alan mentioned wetlands concerns re: the school's expansion proposals.

\*8) New Item – Liaisons needed to attend Planning Board and Town Council meetings. Mary W. stressed importance of our presence/visibility at these meetings. Jay will send out a sign-up calendar.

\* 9) Adjournment  
Karen moved, Mary T seconded.