

Meeting Minutes – February 28, 2017  
West Boylston Open Space Implementation Committee (OSIC)  
Town Hall, 140 Worcester St., West Boylston, MA

Members Present: Brenda Bowman, Ray DeSanti, Gary Flynn, John Hadley, Mike Peckar, Vin Vignaly, Barbara Wyatt

Others Present: Justin Howard, Robert Dunne -WB Parks Commission, Michelle Brown-Dog Park Subcommittee, Dick Johnson

The meeting was called to order by Chair Vignaly at 6:05 pm. On a motion by Mr. Peckar, seconded by Ms. Wyatt, the minutes of the 1/10/17 meeting were approved. Ms. Wyatt, Mr. Hadley, and Mr. DeSanti abstained because they were not at the meeting.

**Open Space and Recreation Plan Update (OSRP):**

The committee reviewed the draft PowerPoint presentation or the Public Forum, scheduled for 3/14/17. Mr. Hadley agreed to present the introduction and overview, Mr. Pedone will do the Parks Commission activities, since he is the current Chairman, Mr. Peckar will cover the Open Space portions, while Mr. Daniska of CMRPC will review and address the Complete Streets process and prioritization needs. Mr. Vignaly had included slides and cost estimates from the Goodale Park Master Plan, but the committee felt that focusing on this in the overview might divert the attention to the whole plan. The Parks Commission is ready for questions and concerns with the estimated price and phasing; and this is included as one of the Action Items within the Update. The Public Forum draft has been posted on the Town Website with hard copies available for review at the library and town clerk's office; a 'blast' was sent by the Town Administrator to all town news subscribers on the website, and a notice included in the Banner newspaper to encourage participation on 3/14/2017 at 6:00.

Mr. Johnson was in attendance expecting the Public Forum and provided the following comments to that end:

1. Extend the sidewalk along the west side of Crescent street to join the sidewalk that goes to the High School. This would alleviate two road crossings.
2. Finish the sidewalk under the rail line on Route 12.
3. Include the Senior Center on Newton Street as part of the building for the Goodale Park Master Plan. This would allow seniors to view their family's sports games and be used more frequently.
4. Request DCR donation of land on Fleming Street (northwest side of the Route 12/140 Triangle) for town offices.

Other suggestions for OSRP changes included better coordination with DCR for expanded uses and cooperative programs from Ms. Wyatt. Mr. DeSanti enthusiastic, "Thank God for DCR" to protect land in West Boylston because the "town open space" keeps getting used for town building projects.

Prioritize the 264 Prospect Street property acquisition with Greater Worcester Land Trust. They were recently denied a special permit for 6 lots where 4 are allowed by right. Mr. Flynn noted that this land abuts the Town Well on Lee Street and the Water District believes that it should be protected from development.

Minor corrections to Map 9A include water overlaps town open space at 263 Maple, and it should be coded with DCR owning the northern portion and the Town owning the southern portion of the back lands and labeled as "263 Maple". Label the 1 acre parcel on the east side of Goodale Street as "Pine Glen", and the 12-acre property at 363 Goodale Street as "Malden Hill South".

### **Dog Park Subcommittee Discussions**

Michelle Brown reported that the subcommittee has met with a designer/engineer, Places Associates, and is awaiting a proposal for the work to be sent to Anita Scheipers, town administrator, who will need to get approval from the Selectmen before proceeding. Ms. Scheipers spoke to the Stanton Foundation and their process is changing and will only fund 7 projects per year. Ms. Bowman reported that the superintendent of the Lighting Plant told her that the use of the land adjacent to the solar array at the corner of Shrewsbury and Tivnan Drive is not acceptable for a dog part. This was different than the board stated at their last meeting when she was there. Ms. Bowman will attend the next meeting to get clarification.

The next meeting was scheduled to be the Public Forum on Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 6 pm.

Upon a motion by Mr. Flynn, and seconded by Ms. Wyatt, the committee unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Vincent Vignaly