Meeting Minutes – November 16, 2017

West Boylston Open Space Implementation Committee (OSIC)

Town Hall, 140 Worcester St., West Boylston, MA

Members Present: Brenda Bowman, Gary Flynn, Mike Peckar, Barbara Wyatt, Vin Vignaly

Members Absent: Ray DeSanti, John Hadley

Others Present:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Vignaly at 6:06 pm. Motion by Mr. Peckar, seconded by Ms. Bowman, the minutes of the 9/25/17 meeting were unanimously approved.

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

Mr. Vignaly noted that he and Nancy Lucier each contacted the reviewer at the Department of Conservation Services regarding the OSRP submitted in July and she was sent an electronic version to review. No response has been received yet.

Mr. Vignaly noted that the designer for the senior center building on Prescott Street attended a Planning Board meeting and are including improvements to the existing field to their design, since the water line is expected to traverse that area. Mr. Flynn explained that the Parks Commission is working with them to coordinate the work to save the town some money in the end. There may be Open Space grant money available if we get the OSRPlan approved. The option to include a Town Pool on the site was discussed, with the questions of size and placement needing research. Mr. Flynn will check the Goodale Park Master Plan information because Mr. Dunn had stated at a prior meeting that this information was included.

**Dog Park Subcommittee Report:**

Ms. Brown was not available for the meeting, but reported that a new parcel for the dog park is needed. The Municipal Lighting Board had concerns with the land on Tivnan Drive for the dog park requiring a 99-year lease. Ms. Brown contacted the Town Administrator who suggested using a portion of the Town Brush Dump property off Laurel Street. Mr. Vignaly distributed images of the land from the Town Website that showed the topography and adjacent areas. It was discussed that the Cemetery Trustees were also looking to buy property and Mr. Flynn will contact Mr. McKee or another Trustee to see if they are interested in approaching Mr. Ahlmstrom for the 22+ acres adjacent to the town brush dump property for a dog park and cemetery.

**Properties of Interest:**

Mr. Peckar was asked about the status of the allowed uses at the Malden Hill South, formerly owned by Mr. Minnich, land at the top of Goodale Street. Mr. Peckar said he would find the final wording that was agreed between the Greater Worcester Land Trust and the Conservation Commission.

Mr. Vignaly noted that the Brossi property on Prospect Street is still the top priority due to the development pressure, but the committee does not have high hopes.

A new site with about 23 acres on Laurel Street, owned by Ms. Ingrid Monkiewicz, and adjacent to the Ahlmstrom property should also be added to the property listing in the OSRP.

Mr. Peckar asked about the 5.5 acres on Marsh Hawk Way, owned by Jim Kaufman, but nobody had heard anything about any changes. Mr. Vignaly didn’t remember whether an ANR plan had been submitted to the Planning Board yet.

Ms. Bowman noted that the Estrada Farm on Prospect Street was for sale and Mr. Peckar will notify Colin at GWLT of the sale of the 5-acre property.

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for 6:00 on Tuesday, December 12, 2017, when hopefully, the comments on the OSRP are received from the state Division of Conservation Services.

Upon motion by Ms. Wyatt, seconded by Mr. Peckar, the committee unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Vincent Vignaly