

Meeting Minutes – December 12, 2017
West Boylston Open Space Implementation Committee (OSIC)
Town Hall, 140 Worcester St., West Boylston, MA

Members Present: Brenda Bowman, John Hadley, Mike Peckar, Barbara Wyatt, Vin Vignaly

Members Absent: Ray DeSanti, Gary Flynn

Others Present: Jim Pedone-Parks Commission, Michele Brown

The meeting was called to order by Chair Vignaly at 6:03 pm. Motion by Mr. Peckar, seconded by Ms. Bowman, the minutes of the 11/16/17 meeting were unanimously approved as amended.

Open Space and Recreation Plan Update (OSRP):

Mr. Vignaly noted that Ms. Cryan at the Division of Conservation Services sent a letter regarding the OSRP submitted in July on November 9, but it was not at town hall due to a mail delivery problem. The letter noted acceptance of the Plan, but had many comments with missing information requested. Vignaly contacted CMRPC and they believe that the appendices were not included, so most of the information has already been completed and they will compile and follow up with the information submittal in an electronic version and the requested print version.

Mr. Pedone explained that the Parks Commission is working with the senior center building facilities committee for improvements to the Prescott Street site to coordinate the work to reduce the flooding, realign/improve the fields and save the town some money in the end. There may be Open Space grant money available now that the OSRPlan has been accepted. Mr. Vignaly offered to meet with the Parks Commission to try to coordinate grant application opportunities for the field and playground or pool or other facilities possible at the Mixter Building site.

Dog Park Subcommittee Report:

Ms. Brown noted that Dog Park discussions have not progressed for property along Tivnan Drive. Mr. Vignaly presented an aerial plan of the Laurel Street Brush Dump site that has adequate area to accommodate a 1.5 acre dog park, but the topography is uneven. Discussion occurred of the negative aspects of a shooting area next door and the lack of visibility from a public street. Mr. Flynn was going to contact Mr. Ahlstrom about possibly using or the town purchasing his 24 acres or so in the rear where the shooting area was occurring, but Mr. Flynn has not provided an update. Mr. Flynn was also going to contact the Cemetery Trustees to ask about their interest in a coordinated acquisition of this property for a cemetery and dog park area. Mr. Hadley noted that an RFP was being sent out by the Town Administrator for the cemetery needs and Mr. Vignaly will ask about how she might send it to Mr. Ahlstrom.

Properties of Interest:

The list of the Private Properties of Interest in the current draft of the Open Space and Recreation Plan was discussed. It was discussed that Mr. Vignaly will request these updates to CMRPC as they prepare the final plan update. The list should include the following additions (Assessor Map/Parcel) to the list, narrative and the associated Map:

- Add the Milton property, 14.5 acres at about 71 Laurel Street (118/24) for Chapter Land.
- Add the Monkiewicz properties, 22 acres at about 201 Laurel Street (119/43 and 119/44) for acquisition by town or DCR.
- Add rear portion of the Kaufman property at 11 Marsh Hawk Way (144/49), 4 acres of 5.5 acre lot abutting the Pine Glen parcel for Land Trust/Town acquisition.

Mr. Peckar noted that there has been no recent land acquisition activity, and will follow-up on the allowed uses and restrictions in place on the Malden Hill South property at the top of Lee Street. Ms.

Bowman noted that there are no signs and the parking area is inadequate to safely access the property. Mr. Peckar will check on the status of these issues with Greater Worcester Land Trust.

The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for 6:00 on Tuesday, January 9, 2018.

Upon motion by Ms. Wyatt, seconded by Mr. Peckar, the committee unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Vincent Vignaly