



Town of Tewksbury MINUTES

Committee: Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee

Date: Thursday, August 11, 2022

Time: 6:00PM

Location: Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA Main Hall

Members present: Karyn Sliva, Paige Impink, Bruce Shick, JW Buckley, Tom Branchaud, Ray Bowden, Peter Chase

Members absent: Susan Young, JoAnn Brace

The meeting was called to order at: 6:09 PM

Meeting Motions / Actions and Summary of Discussions:

Reorganization commenced. Bruce Shick nominated Tom Branchaud as the new chair, seconded by Karyn Sliva. J.W. Buckley nominated Bruce Shick as vice chair, seconded by Tom Branchaud. Bruce Shick nominated Paige Impink as clerk, seconded by Peter Chase. All nominations were approved unanimously.

The committee thanked Jennifer Balch-Kenney for her work on the committee.

Tom welcomed new member Ray Bowden. New members Susan Young and JoAnn Brace were unable to attend but look forward to the next meeting.

The minutes of the June 9, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved.

Bruce gave an update on the trail walks, which have been conducted in partnership with the library. Seven trail walks have been completed. Attendance ranged from 15-50 people. Enthusiastic. Most did not know about the trails in town. Bruce reported that he spoke about stewardship. Robert Hayes would like to do the program again. Bruce and Peter and Karyn discussed seeing many of the same people. Paige will find out about how the delimiters were handled. The group also discussed reaching out to other groups and how to change it up in the future to reach the most people.

Community market on August 25 will be represented by Bruce and Tom- everyone welcomed. The group will also participate in Public Safety Night 8.21.22 from 3-5PM.

CWF update- Bruce met with Richard, Steve, and Alex (town manager, asst. town manager, town planner/comm dev director) regarding the boardwalks. They've met with Bob Weatherall and are trying to get an RFP out in September and work booked before EOY (end of year), with work to be done in 2023. An NOI has to be filed (notice of intent) for all three crossings.

Hospital MOU (memorandum of understanding)- Bruce extended thanks to JoMarie Buckley for getting this signed by the hospital. It will allow the state land to be used for passive recreation. An amendment allows work to be done, including a boardwalk at East Street and to replace a boardwalk across Strongwater Brook, and a boardwalk from the old pump house in back of Joan's Farm. There is a separate NOI required for the Strongwater Brook crossings at the hospital which will be pursued at a later time.

Additional parcels for permanent protection were discussed. Paige explained that all parcels in the "unprotected" category from the Open Space Plan, except for two, have been moved into permanent protection. The two parcels that have been held open are the water department land on Ronald Drive 9 Ronald 71-38 and the "trestle" (trestle 99-112) used for emergency access to Regina S Drive off of South Street. Paige to provide Tom and Bruce with the working sheet.

Kiosk update-Peter has created 6 trail frames and has the wording for 2 of the signs- Rogers and CWF.

Committee will recommend a few NO ATV signs for town management to consider.

Paige will follow up on which Marston parcels are being donated and which was retracted by owner.

Meeting was adjourned at: 7:35 PM

Next meeting: Date: September 8, 2022

Time: 6:00PM

Place: Town Hall

Respectfully submitted, Paige Impink, Clerk

Minutes approved by Committee on: September 8, 2022

Documents: Documents shared on screen may be viewed in the Office of Community Development.