

WREP Meeting Minutes 10/02/12

Location: Hingham

Attendees:

Dick Avery, Faith Burbank, Judeth Van Hamm,
Scribe: Scott Plympton

Housekeeping

- The minutes from June were reviewed and approved.
- The minutes from July were reviewed and accepted as amended.

Bass Point and Porter's Cove Update (*Boyle properties*)

- Darci Schofield (TPL) has been in contact with Cliff Boyle, who is now in Arizona.
- All actions to pursue developable sites on Bass Point and Porter's Cove have been temporarily placed on hold due to family concerns.

Porters Cove Update (the 21E site)

- Following a site cleanup, the objective was to transfer this property from the DCR to Hingham.
- Jim Comeau (DCR) continues to work to determine the ownership of the property. The DCR had placed a previous conservation restriction on the site, but they are unable to transfer this to Hingham without an owner.
- The CR is now recorded in Hingham Assessor's Office. No taxes are collected.

Noonan Property Update

- Faith provided the members with documentation about the Noonan property.
- This is the site of the Sydney Ice Pond and has been in the Noonan family for over 100 years. The pond is spring fed. There is a conservation restriction easement that follows the pond stream to Kilby Street. It makes a strong case for conservation.
- The Hingham Open Space Acquisition Committee has reformed with Mike Pollard as the lead *for the Noonan Property acquisition, due October 15.*
- Faith asked for our feedback as one of the stakeholders to assist in the completion of a CPC grant application *for the whole property (7.91 acres) by Hingham's Land Acquisition Committee::*

CPC Question 3 & 5 & 7:

- *To preserve the site of Hingham's ice-making and delivery history*
- *To maintain a waterway stream flow for viable fish spawning*
 - *To maintain aquatic and land habitat as a part of the ACEC and contiguous wildlife corridor, especially for migratory and resident birds species (over 100, including several rare bird species).*
 - *To maintain the stream flow, pond, and edges free from evasive plants*

- To help maintain *the natural integrity of the site with an annual site clean up*
- *To create a walking path and maintain it.*
- To provide passive recreation activities, *i.e. bird watching, nature study, a place for viewing and stop over option for pedestrians or bikers on proposed WREP bike path or for the neighborhood enjoyment.*
- *To provide other activities, such as community gardens and skating.*
- *To provide future housing stock for the Housing Authority.*
- *To provide historical and habitat signage.*
- *A Property Management plan, which would dovetail with the WREP management plan underway.*

Success of implementation:

- *Land acquired to protect the resource permanently from development and to benefit all the community stakeholders permanently. A management plan for implementation of above.*

Immediate Action:

- WREP Committee will send a letter of support to the Open Space Acquisition Committee. Faith will take this activity.

Lofchie Property Update

- Access: Judeth recently met with Hull Town Manager, Town Council, Building Commissioner and the Conservation Administrator.
 - Larry Hoch must remove the gate on Eastman Rd and open the right of way to the public.
- There is a potential buyer for the property who buyer lives on Jerusalem Road and has expressed interest in low or no development and providing conservation access.
- Waiting for a decision from the owner.

559 Jerusalem Road

- This is the Ford property and the site of the former Black Rock Inn.
- The property owner wants to sell, but has an unworkable sewer plan.
- Cohasset Conservation Commission to revisit their denial of a storm water runoff permit.
- Threat:
 - Additional development impacts fresh water runoff into Straits Pond and may upset the delicate balance on the pond restoration.
 - Dick will attend the Cons Com meeting and speak on the dangers of changing salinity levels.

Next Meeting

- October 30th at the Weir River Estuary Center. 7:00PM