

August 12, 2014 Minutes Open Space & Recreation Plan Committee Meeting

Time: 7:05 PM – 8:05 PM

Location: Swampscott Town Hall

Members Present: Richard Smith, Mary Webster, Toni Bandrowicz, Jim Olivetti & Sarah Pruet

Members Absent: Tania Lillak

Ex- Officios Present: Angela Ippolito

Ex-Officios Absent: Danielle Strauss

Others Present: Town Residents

The meeting was called to order by Mary Webster at 7:05 PM.

Jim made a motion to accept the June 10, 2014 minutes. Toni seconded. All in favor.

On the July 22, 2014 minutes, Memorial Park on the last page will be changed to Monument Avenue. Toni made a motion to approve the July 22, 2014 minutes as amended. Richard seconded. All in favor.

Angela reported on her conversation with Gino with regard to the \$50,000 compensation to the town for the sewage leak above Kings Beach. The money was limited to environmental issues. The money was used for raking the beach, planting trees and other items. Angela will report in detail with amounts at our next meeting.

Mary will add, 'items to follow-up on', to our regular agenda.

Mary commented on the large amount of opinions and emails the dog park issue has generated. Members of the committee received a copy of the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form for the Swampscott Cemetery. The footprint and possible uses of the land within the boundaries were discussed. Many emails were received from the Friends of Swampscott Athletic Fields (FSAF) members. The question was asked; is the FSAF an official town committee? Open Space will collaborate with several entities to solve the dog park issue.

Angela will coordinate with FSAF. Richard will look into the cemetery questions. Jim will coordinate with Beautification Committee. Mary will get in touch with SPOT.

At 7:40 Mary opened up the floor for public comment. Edward Toner handed out a petition, opposed to the Phillips Park site, signed by officials and coaches of the Swampscott youth association football, lacrosse and soccer programs. At 7:50 Mary closed public comment.

Toni made a motion to withdraw the recommendation to the BOS for the location of the dog park pending further review of new issues with regard to the North Phillips Park site and the Cemetery site. Sarah seconded. All in favor.

Jim spoke with Gino about the Tree Hearing process. Gino has 4 Tree Hearings per year. Approximately, a dozen trees are reviewed at each meeting. Trees that are designated to be removed are marked with a sign to alert residents. If one person objects to the tree being removed, they do not remove it. If a resident requests to have a tree removed from town property, not because it is failing, but because of a project such as a driveway redesign, the resident must pay for 3 replacement trees to be planted somewhere else on town property. Jim will write a letter to Gino expressing the Committee's support for adding canopy trees such as oaks and maples to the DPW's tree replacement list, and replacing trees in the Olmsted district particularly with oaks and maples rather than ornamental trees as the need arises.

Richard shared two, - original, - historic documents with regard to landscaping in Swampscott; the Monument Avenue Planting Plan and the Olmsted Planting and Order list for the Swampscott Land Trust.

We will review the matrix of the OSRP 1st year progress at the next meeting. Mary will keep a running addendum.

Beautification is working with Gino on the beach markers. We may want to participate in the choice of the location of the markers.

Marc Barden will attend our September meeting to bring us up to speed with regard to the Rail Trail progress.

John Callahan is our BOS liaison. Mary will keep him informed with regard to our progress.

Toni will work on our public relations.

Jim, Richard and Tania have a meeting scheduled with Susan Balleza and the Beautification Committee to start the conversation with regard to the landscaping at Howland Park.

Mary closed the meeting at 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Pruet

Our next meeting is September 9, 2014, 7 PM at Town Hall