

July 9, 2012 Meeting Minutes
Upton Open Space Committee

Nipmuc High, 7.30

Members present:

Tom Dodd
Alan Miano
Mike Penko
Marcella Stasa
Bill Taylor

Scenic Roads Bylaw

No news.

South Street Parcel

MP has been helping with the Parkland Acquisitions and Renovations for Communities (PARC) grant for the South Street property giving tech assistance and doing GIS work. A proposal for an alternate East Street site for playing fields was submitted. Both were considered.

At the May 10th Selectmen's meeting they are expected to get a recommendation in support of the South Street purchase as the cost is lower. for the land.

The cost of development is probably about the same.

There are fewer abutter and traffic issues at the East street site.

The Recreation Commission needed a draft CR that would be broken down into zones, Gravel Pit Zone and Western Zone which includes Goss Pond, West River and spruce tamarack bog. CR was drafted by MP.

Metacomet Land Trust (MLT) voted in support of holding the CR if there's a conservation component.

MLT will write a letter of support to submit with the PARC grant.

Original idea of 300 parking spaces would trigger a Mass Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) review so the project was scaled down.

The project will move ahead whether or not the PARC grant comes through or not.

The project will need Army Corps of Engineers approval, flood limit may be different from when it was first created.

Con Com might add a letter of support.

Project quality offers high points.

AM wondered if there is a business opportunity in the playing fields.

Glenview Avenue Parcel

70 Acres owned by 4 sisters.

No town open space funds to help out at this time.

Abutting Nipmuc Rod and Gun Club (NRGC) might be contacted.

Abutting Beagle Club is not interested.

MP checked on Partnership Grant and it's due on July 16th –too late.

Price is down from \$700,000 to \$500,000.

Amount of frontage is unknown.

Talk to NRGCC to work on Partnership Grant but it would have to be next year.

BT will call Scott Heim to see if NRGCC could be interested.

Community Preservation Act acknowledgment sign at Sweetwilliam Farm/Whitney CA

Where should it be placed? A: On existing sign – there are no grant restrictions about additional signage.

It may be a while.

It could go on a kiosk when that is constructed.

Misc.

Kent and Davidson parcels were purchased by the Department of Conservation and Recreation. Both protected. Part of the Kent parcel is under a CR.

Goat farmer who was interested in Sweetwilliam Farm has chosen not to purchase the property.

Meeting adjourned 9.10 PM