

Meeting Minutes - June 9, 2014
West Boylston Open Space Implementation Committee (OSIC)
Town Hall, 127 Hartwell St., West Boylston, MA

Attendees: *Vin Vignaly, Barbara Wyatt, Brenda Bowman, Ray DeSanti, Debi Mattison, Gary Flynn, John Hadley*

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chair Vignaly

Discussion of 405 Prospect St. at Westland Circle request from new owner for removal from Chapter 61A and Right of First Refusal by the Town. Discussion that the purchase price was \$167,000, and the town has 120 days to decide if it wants to purchase the property for that price. The town is reviewing and investigating the acquisition. John Hadley mentioned that the Conservation Commission and Planning Board are recommending acquisition by the Town. The Greater Worcester Land Trust may be able to facilitate and assist on the purchase if timing before the Town Meeting is a problem. **On a motion by John Hadley, and a second by Debi Mattison, it was voted unanimously to email the selectmen asking them to proceed with the investigation to purchase the property.**

Discuss requests to Planning Organizations/Consultants to complete the Open Space and Recreation Plan update. Our current Open Space and Recreation Plan (OS&R) expired November 2013. Vin Vignaly asked for authorization from the committee to request proposals from consultants to complete the OS&R update. Discussion of the Open Space portion of the Master Plan noted that this was completed last year, but the draft has been sent to the Parks Committee for comments and additions relative to active recreation plans and goals.

Followup to OSIC concerns raised regarding pesticides and fertilizer applications on Town-owned properties. Vin Vignaly has had more than 12 emails on the topic. In summary, pesticides were applied to town athletic fields and the notification from the applicator was only sent to the athletic director at the schools and did not get to the Parks Committee who schedules the fields. The concerns are: What kind of pesticides and fertilizers is the town using? Can we have adequate notice and posting on the fields, so that our recreation areas are safe?

Acquisition of 263 Maple St is progressing with the Greater Worcester Land Trust cooperating with the DCR to each acquire the portion that is within their area of concern.

Vignaly described the status/progress through the Planning Board's Site Plan Review of the Holy Cross' proposed Contemplation Center at 1000 Goodale St. Members suggested that the town negotiate a PILOT payment program and allow public use of existing and new walking trails.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20PM. Next meeting will be on July 21, 2014.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Wyatt, Clerk