

Meeting Minutes – March 16, 2015
West Boylston Open Space Implementation Committee (OSIC)
Attending the Parks Facilities Committee
Town Hall, 140 Worcester St., West Boylston, MA

Members: Brenda Bowman, Gary Flynn, John Hadley, Barbara Wyatt, Vin Vignaly
Absent: Ray DeSanti

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair Vignaly at 7:05 pm when a quorum arrived at the Parks Facilities Committee (PFC) meeting.

Discussion by the PFC Chairman revolved around their minutes and past actions approving a “plan” or “Concept Plan”.

Discussion by PFC over whether they were prepared for the 3/31/15 Roundtable scheduled by Leon. Only by requesting a point of order for discussion of the motion by Chris was the OSIC recognized at their meeting. Mr. Vignaly noted that the OSIC and Planning Board would like to have the Roundtable occur to review the processes that the planning and permitting boards regularly follow and to hear from the PFC to ensure that the needs of the townspeople are included in their process. The OSIC supports the need for improvements at Goodale Park and want the process to occur smoothly and correctly. The discussion of how transparent their process has been thus far was refuted by Mr. Vignaly, noting that the OSIC was only invited to an initial meeting where the PFC asked for input, but no invitation has been received to review or discuss options or which facilities are being proposed in their preferred concept.

Discussion of coordination between the PFC’s consultant, BETA, and the anticipated consultant to complete the Open Space and Recreation Plan Update (OSRPU) was raised. Mr. Vignaly asked for the needs evaluation that was completed by BETA so that the consultant preparing the OSRPU does not have to redo a needs analysis in town. BETA noted that they have not done a needs analysis. They have only “become familiar with the facilities and needs in town”.

Ms. Wyatt asked about the funding sources and the status of a cost estimate for the Goodale Park field and was told by Mr. O’Day that there is a \$5million bond that would not have to be repaid already included in an approved Bond Bill at the state. This would need to be voted by the legislature to become real. The public letter-writing campaign from townspeople to key officials will help the funding to occur.

The OSIC adjourned at approximately 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Vincent Vignaly, Clerk