

Winchendon Community Park Infrastructure Committee

March 22 2021 Minutes

Zoom Meeting

Committee Members Present: Dave Romanowski, Ken LaBrack, Jane LaPointe, Dylan Romanowski, Randy Tenney

Meeting called to order at 5:32 p.m.

Approved minutes from February 22 and February 25, 2021

Business

1. Communication

- a. Dave spoke with Miranda Jennings, who will help. Will take a couple of weeks to assess to best to consolidate the various communication platforms (facebook, website, etc.)
- b. **Dave** will meet with Miranda and Tiffany at the upcoming WCP Programming Committee meeting
- c. One person from each committee, Infrastructure and programming, will work with Miranda on communication. **Dylan** will represent the Infrastructure Committee.

2. Volunteer Opportunities: Our Priorities

- a. Trail Maintenance. We got a big head start last year. Need to work on this sooner than later - it needs to be a priority
 - Consider working with NQTA this Spring on tick remediation - asking Bobby Curley to help lead this work
 - Also consider working with NQTA on trails in the new 8 acres. Since this area contains wetlands, will likely require work with John Walker and the Conservation Commission
 - **Dave** will speak with Bobby on expectations
 - **Jane** will draft the "job description/expectations" for volunteers -- what it means to be a volunteer.
 - Ken recommended that we divide trails into sections for an "Adopt a portion of a trail program", with a lead person who recruits their own volunteers for their section of the trail. Adopted sections to be identified by signage
 - Mowing, while part of trail maintenance, is also separate. Need to recruit a couple of volunteers who care schedule/share this work with Dylan
 - Big question remains: how to recruit volunteers
- b. Save/Secure the Barn and Garage
 - **Randy** will assess the barn and garage for the required work, materials and cost.
 - He also has an electrician lined up to help in this assessment
 - Need update from OPM on electrical upgrade plans

- Ability to set up the garage as a place to build picnic tables
- c. May Day/June Open House
 - Tiffany has started this initiative. May 1 - a Saturday. Date will likely be pushed out. Question of pre-registration for events
 - Infrastructure Committee considerations
 - Stations with information about the Park
 - Potential ground breaking for the Amphitheater
 - Robinson-Broadhurst availability
 - Abacus availability
 - Invite abutters: Town Manager
 - Parking
 - Trash barrels for that day (DPW?)
 - Porta potty for event .. for season (Tiffany has been working with Town Hall on this)
- 3. Other Considerations/Questions
 - a. Fire pit: Tiffany asked about a location for a permanent fire pit to be installed. It was agreed that the area between the barn and garage would be best.
- 4. Amphitheater Updates/Questions:
 - a. House: Need to check with the OPM on why the controlled burn for the house is scheduled for the Fall and to understand how this may affect Park usage
 - Need to determine, with the Town Manager, who has responsibility for the security of the house - particularly, post-abatement, when windows are removed
 - b. Electricity: Check with OPM on what is being planned regarding electrical service and how this can connect with the barn and garage
 - Town will be billed for electricity; Check with Town Manager on line item in the budget for this
 - c. Sponsorships: signs, benches, etc. Need to revisit this topic
 - Consider what would be appropriate signs for sponsorship. The need for Park entrance signs that are in keeping with the Town's Branding & Way-finding initiative
 - Consider benches or picnic tables for sponsorship
 - Sponsor would play for the logo
 - Also, the possibility of a plaque on a rock that recognizes various contributors/park sponsors
 - For now, focus on the amphitheater and picnic area for sponsorships and wait on benches
 - d. Town Manager Update re coordination with Town, committee's mission, responsibilities, plans, needs, etc.: to be taken up at the next meeting

- e. Conservation Commission Update:
 - All questions addressed
- f. While not a ConCom topic, Elm Street Trail - work with John, Brian, etc. in April to better understand what is happening under the bridge
- g. Park hours - After dark. **Ken** will speak with Dave Walsh about the pros and cons of being opened or closed after dusk
- h. Trash: Committee should confirm with Scouts that they will take care of the maintenance at Fishing Point, which includes emptying the trash bin
- i. Recommendations to BOS: re mission, responsibilities, plans, needs, coordination with Town, etc.: wait until after the upcoming elections

Next Meeting: Monday, April 26, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Adjourned: 6:45 p.m.

Approved: April 26, 2021