Open Space and Recreation Committee
January 9, 2019
Town Hall, Room 7 • 6:30 PM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Mike Chapman, Steve Jaworski, Olga Hayes, Nicky McHugh, Helen Bethell, Francie Caudill, Jared Porter
Members Absent: none
Others Present: Mary Reilly, OSRC Staff

Mike Chapman, Chair, opened the meeting and reviewed the agenda.

Minutes
No minutes were available for review.

Update on Dexter Pond and new footbridge bridge and article
- Mike reported on current status of the four CPA funded projects from Sue Thorne who co-chairs the CPC.
  - Mike asked if money that had been intended for the bog bridge could be used for something else. The answer was “no”. Mike recommended that we keep the money for now.
  - The Dexter Pond project came up $2,442 under budget due to all of Ken King’s volunteer work. We do have extra money if we want
  - The Bog Bridge project was slotted for $9,970. We currently don’t have a plan for that and Mike recommends that we let it sit for now. We don’t have to turn the money back to the CPC yet.
  - PH Hill: spent $1000 so far on producing the map; still have $4,380 left for that project.
  - Open Space and Recreation still has $2,400 for producing and Trails Brochure. This has not been started.
- New footbridge article (drafted by Nicky McHugh). The committee offered suggested edits to the draft which Nicky recorded. Nicky will incorporate the edits; send it to Mary, who will then send it out. We’ll send it to the Cricket and the Gloucester Daily Times.

Update on Newport Park and Powder House Hill trails
- Mike and Olga met with the Housing Authority and presented our plans to create a new trail to lessen the use of the parking lot by hikers and dogs. They were receptive to the plans.
- Regarding the new trail, Steve Gang produced a diagram of the new trail and took it to MECT and the Conservation Commission for discussion. It’s been approved by MECT and was previously approved by the ConCom.
- Once the new trail is flagged but will need to be added to the map.
- Olga mentioned that the entrance to the park is very muddy (the main entry). Would like to consider regrading it a bit to fix the problem.
- Trail markers could go in anytime for the existing trails.
- Get hold of Steve Gang to find out when he and the Scouts could actually create the new trails.
Review and Assessment of Open Space and Rec Plan Goals and Objectives

- Mary edited the Action Plan with updates from the past year. She asked that everyone look at the edits to see if they were accurate. She stated that it was also time to looking at all the actions in the plan – not just the high and medium actions slated for years 1 and 2 and suggested holding a longer meeting.

- It was decided that the committee hold a special Saturday morning meeting, lasting two hours, to discuss the status of the OSRP. Mary will get copies of the Action Plan to everyone containing the most recent edits.

Schedule next regular meetings

- The Special OSRP Actions Review meeting was tentatively scheduled for 2/2 or 2/23
- The next regular meeting was tentatively scheduled for Wed, 2/6
- Steve Jaworski moved that the meeting be adjourned at 7:30 pm; Jared Porter seconded the motion.

Submitted by Mary Reilly