



MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA

CONSERVATION COMMISSION • TOWN HALL
Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts 01944-1399
Telephone (978) 526-4397 FAX (978) 526-2001

Open Space and Recreation Committee February 28, 2022 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Zoom Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81497228632?pwd=eEpVcWh4N0hMeUd0OG5jWGluMXpPQT09>

Meeting ID: 814 9722 8632

Passcode: 447856

Dial by your location: +1 646 558 8656 US

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Olga Hayes, Steve Gang, Curtis Rising, Sheila Linehan, Al Centner and Helen Bethell

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Eva Palmer, minute taker

Steve Gang, Acting Co-Chair, performed a rollcall at 6:35 pm to confirm attendance.

- January 3, 2022 minutes

Vote: To accept the minutes as written.

Motion: Olga Hayes

Second: Al Centner

Actual Vote: 6-0

- Update on Western Woods Preservation Initiative – no update
- Update on OSRP
 - Olga reminded the committee that they were still awaiting the plan to be signed by the state.
- Update on Brochure
 - Helen informed the committee that the brochure is close to being finalized. Steve noted there was no legend for the red dots on the brochure. There is information on the back of the map that references parking, but specifics are needed. Newport Park Parking area should be added to the brochure. Parking areas at Pine Street, Pleasant Street, Colburn Road and the Scout House need clarification. Curtis and Helen both felt signage at the parking areas would be very helpful. Helen felt the BOS and DPW should be contacted regarding any signage. Helen will draw up a proposal to the CPC for funding of parking signs. A separate issue are the trails at Dexter's Pond not marked well.
- Update on Newport Park Parking
 - Olga is still waiting to hear from the Town Administrator regarding any progress.
- Update on Water Resource Protection Task Force

- Steve informed the committee that a kickoff meeting had occurred. There would be another ZOOM meeting on March 2 at 4:00 p.m. where there will be a briefing from Chuck Dam, DPW Director and Nate Derosiers, engineer for DPW to discuss how the Town currently source, treat, discharge and charge for drinking water. A questionnaire was given to the Task Force members to see what water resource areas they are interested in. Helen was interested in the regulatory and acquisition aspects. Task Force member Joe Sabello had set up a meeting with the president of Gordon College to discuss protecting the watershed. Helen would like to know if Gordon College has any plans to develop in Manchester.
- Discussion of the Town formally participating in the permitting process for a development at 133 Essex Street in Hamilton
 - Helen pointed out that Manchester had purchased land and ponds 100 years ago and no one thought of the lands that drain into the ponds. She felt the need for a regional cooperative effort. Steve agreed that the whole area was a regional issue. It is the North Coastal Watershed and no one is taking responsibility for it. Helen suggested asking the state for help. Senator Tarr is interested in water issues and could help. Steve suggested that citizen groups propose to each town Select Boards to contact Hamilton and tell them they want a voice in the Planning Board and Conservation Commission hearings. An Order of Conditions was issued by the Hamilton Conservation Commission and may be able to be appealed. Helen and Steve will continue to pursue this and discuss it with Greg Federspiel.
- Other Business
 - Al updated the committee that the Bike and Pedestrian Committee had applied for \$7000, in funding, from the CPC for more bike racks. He did not anticipate any issues. This will fund 10-13 new bike racks. Helen thought the location of the bike racks should go on the trail brochure. This would be Al's last meeting, his term is up in March with the Bike and Pedestrian Committee. The OSRC members thanked him for his efforts.
 - Olga informed the committee that there was movement initiated by Mike Chapman and Dan Senecal to clean the base of the standpipe at Powderhouse Hill. They are working with the Historical Museum. The plan is to remove the chain link fence around the building and clear around the base of the standpipe. DPW will be knocking down the block structure and taking the debris away.
- Next Meeting
 - Scheduled for Monday March 28, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.
- The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 pm.

Meeting minutes approved April 6, 2022