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Town of Mansfield
Open Space and Recreation Committee Minutes
February 24, 2020

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Present: Diane Simms, Chair; Allen Bryer; Perry DiMascio; Sharon Friedman; Rebecca Foster.
MASSACHUSETTS

1. Meeting Called to Order

The meeting of the Town of Mansfield Open Space and Recreation Committee was called to order at 7:02 pm.

2. Town Trail Management Plan

Ms. Gonyer said she and Jonas Bruggemann met with Elissa Landu, Mass Audubon, Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary for advice on how to write a trail management plan. Ms. Gonyer said Ms. Landu told her if she wanted to do a larger scale management plan for the existing trails and for any future parcels, the management plan should be integrated into the Open Space Plan. Ms. Landu also helped with an annual maintenance plan. Ms. Gonyer noted the town will actually support a budget line for the trails; Ms. Landu will help to develop a budget.

Ms. Simms asked when there would be a sufficient draft for the Committee to review. Ms. Gonyer said she will have a draft for the March 30th meeting. Ms. Simms asked that the draft be sent to everyone prior to the meeting.

3. What to do about unmarked trails

Ms. Simms said they have started to add trail markers at Corporal Hardy; once this is completed, the trail maps will have to be updated to include the new "Yellow" trail. Because of the recent printing of the trail maps, Ms. Gonyer suggested adding a sign at the head of the trail, noting the new trail. Ms. Simms said the sign could also note "trail marking changes in progress".

Ms. Gonyer said all the maps need to be redone because social trails have turned into actual trails. Ms. Simms suggested the Corporal Hardy brochure could be reprinted to include the "Yellow" trail. Ms. Friedman said they should focus on the robust trails and leave the social trails alone.

Ms. Simms said she will complete the trail marking in Corporal Hardy; Ms. Foster said she will help with the trail marking. Ms. Simms said generally unmarked trails would be left alone but, once the trail becomes a major thoroughfare, it will be marked.

4. Trail signs to mark property boundaries

Ms. Simms said when marking the trails, you have to make sure you are not putting the signs on private property but right now there are no resources available to get precise property line measurements.

Ms. Simms said Marie Streese will be done after Corporal Hardy is completed. She said this area needs "No Dumping" signs.

Mr. Bryer asked if there should also be signs noting when leaving Conservation land.

Ms. Gonyer said, when visiting the properties, there will be a form for reporting conditions of the properties. She asked that if the Committee feels there is a better way to report any issues to let her know so she can incorporate the information into the form.

5. Trespass issues

Ms. Simms asked about the trespassing issues at National Lumber. Ms. Gonyer said all the information has been sent to Town Counsel. She will call this week to schedule an appointment to meet and review the information. She has also reached out to National Lumber's attorney.

Ms. Simms said there is a "No Dogs" sign at Sweet & Kalnins (Otis Ball Fields). Ms. Gonyer said there is a restriction in the Mansfield Youth Baseball contract that the Mansfield Conservation Commission must approve all signs at the entrance and within the property. She has reached out to the Mansfield Youth Baseball contact about the signs.

6. Committee updates

Mr. Bryer shared an update for the Masterplan, specific to open space, green space and recreation.

Ms. Friedman talked about a Community Preservation Plan.

Ms. Simms asked if there was any interest as a Committee in signing up to participate in Keep Mansfield Beautiful Cleanup Day in April. Ms. Gonyer suggested the trails be cleaned. She said next year as part of the annual Maintenance Plan there will be an early spring walk.

Ms. Simms said one of the items on the next agenda will be Educational Outreach.

7. Trail Work updates

Ms. Gonyer said the majority of liability issues have been taken care of on the trails but some of the trails at Marie Streese and the Corporal Hardy Red Trail have new issues that will need to be looked at. She said the Great Woods might need to be checked.

Ms. Simms said once Corporal Hardy is completed, Marie Streese, Great Woods, Sweet & Kalnins, Mill Pond and Judy's Lane will be done.

8. Conservation updates

Ms. Gonyer said the Conservation Commission will be sponsoring a Town Meeting article to transfer parcels of land from the Town of Mansfield to the care and control of the Conservation Commission. She said these are small parcels that are landlocked, taken for tax foreclosure, cannot be developed and are wet with no access. She said the parcels will be transferred into Conservation Commission ownership where they will be under Chapter 97 protection.

9. Previous minutes

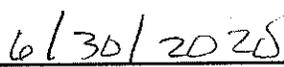
Motion to approve the minutes of October 28, 2019 as amended made by Mr. Bryer, seconded by Ms. Friedman. Motion passed 5-0-0.

10. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Bryer, seconded by Mr. DiMascio. Motion passed 5-0.



Chair



Date