

Yarmouth Parks & Lands Committee MEETING minutes Date: May 4, 2016 Time: 6:00 – 8:30 pm Yarmouth Town Hall, Community Room		<i>To advise the Town Council, staff, boards, committees, and the public concerning the funding, acquisition, management, use, and disposition of town lands needed to implement the parks, trails, pedestrian easements, and open-space goals of the community; and to engage the town and public in stewardship, protection, and uses of the natural environment and ecosystems of Yarmouth through public education, shared responsibility and personal experience, and connection to the lands and waters of Yarmouth.</i>
Chair: absent Committee members 2016: Beth Sturtevant Tony Cowles Jay Waterman Andy Mazer Jamie Carter		Notes taken by: Town Council, Staff & Guests: Alan Stearns, RRCT Karyn Garofoli, YCS Director David Craig, Town Council Liaison Josh Royte Sharon McHold Ed Ashley
Meeting Purpose: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PBP meeting planning, possible property purchase discussion, Planning Board updates, upcoming Special Events. 	Desired Outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To discuss PBP mngmt plan priorities To share and discuss interests in possible parcel acquisition To recruit volunteers to represent PLC at various community events 	

Minutes

Welcome & Introductions

- Introductions and welcome for guests and members
- March 2016 to be approved in June

1) Pratts Brook Park

- Work Day April 30th - UPDATE

Andy and Mary created and hung new directional signage for trails, junctions, & You Are Here maps

-Future Signage at PBP

Comments and suggestions were:

- To create some type of template that stipulates details of each of the six different types of signs used in PBP
 - Trail, Junction, Kiosk, YOU ARE HERE, etc.
- Discussion of whether or not to use animal logos
- Move trail name/signage down the trail by X feet (some set distance)
- There is currently a search for hand-made, wood signs that keep a natural state of the park/trails

-Management Plan

Document Review, Key Issues: Bikes (Tony), Hunting (Sharon), Special Events/Athletic Events

(Sharon)

It is important to put bullet points together to summarize PBP Meeting #1 (2/24/2016)

-Goal for 5/25/2016 meeting is to discuss Bikes, Hunting, Rec'l uses/Dogs

-Have deed restrictions available to share/discuss

2) Property adjacent to Frank Knight Forest

-Alan summarized RRCT's standpoint and expressed interest from RRCT board and potential contributors that would require FKF and adjacent property land be put into conservation easement, if purchased with their support/backing/fundraising/etc.

-Committee member comments included: what would happen if the land stayed undeveloped (with the current owner or a new owner); one member would love to see more mtn bike trails possibly created there; one guest relayed their interest in seeing those properties be placed in conservation easements to prevent any portion of it/them from becoming developed; one guests commented on the possibility of connecting FKF to Brookside, John Howland, and the Bluffs via this possible parcel.

-Alan again suggested that the PLC consider three things when determining whether or not the PLC is interested in supporting this property...or ANY property:

1.) Policy...; 2.) Priority...; and 3.) Passion. The PLC is reminded that money is limited, and that they will need to decide which properties (as they come up) have more “worth” to them and to begin advocating.

-David Craig suggested that he will request the Town Council to discuss which parcels are of more importance to them.

3) Planning Board relations

-The PLC discussed the proposed and modified “mission” statement.

-It is important to get this into the hands of the Planning Board to show that PLC is there to help and assist with upcoming developments and possible land use requests or acquisitions.

4) Celebrate our Royal River – help from 9am-2:15pm is greatly appreciated. Event runs from 10am-2pm.

5) May 17th – CPIC event...there is a Parks and Lands Committee table to gain supporters and to show off what has been completed in the last year.

-Beth has offered to donate the centerfold map of the Open Space Guide for the Celebrate Yarmouth night on 5/17/2016. This tool can be used in many ways and will help to generate conversation as to where people live and which properties they enjoy.

-There should be some sort of information gathering sheet available to collect interested parties for work days, public meetings, and other potential partnerships in the future. (PBP Mngmt plan, FKF advocacy, Camp SOCI advocacy, etc)

6) Community Events

5/17 Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee’s CELEBRATE YARMOUTH

5/17 followed by a PLC meeting

5/20 Arbor Day celebration at Royal River Park (37 years of being recognized as a Tree City USA!)

5/21 World Fish Migration Day –Royal River Park

6/1 Parks and Lands Committee meeting at Town Hall, Community Room – 6-7:30pm

6/4 National Trails Day – WST work day-location to be determined

6/7 Town Meeting at HMS

6/14 Voting day at the Polls, American Legion, North Road

Motion made by Tony to adjourn; seconded by Beth. Meeting adjourned 8:35pm