

## **Open Space Committee**

### **Meeting Minutes: May 17, 2023**

In attendance: In person - Frances Lewis Linda Dorflinger; ZOOM Joanna Buffington, Rob Young, Saul Fisher; Staff - Keith Johnson

Chair Lewis opened the meeting @ 3:00 pm with roll call.

**Minutes of March 2023 meeting approved with minor edits 5-0.**

### **Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) / Land Management Plans**

- No progress or meetings for several months now, as Town Meeting and other projects taking up time; Shana has requested meeting for end of May to re-group with goal to meet bi-weekly for progress on getting OSRP done.
- LM Plan for Wiley Park — need to also address outside consultant for this.

### **Conservation Restrictions (CRs)**

- Keith reported that Umbrella CR on Town Owned Open Space still with State DCR (Div of Conservation and Recreation) — JB shared that new Director of DCR is Bob Wilbur, recently retired as head of MA Audubon.
- Keith reported CR for 100 Cole Road is in progress with ECF to get it to Town Counsel/DCR (?)

### **Wiley Park Runoff**

- Keith talking with APCC re guidance for grant money to address this problem from parking area down to pond; new DPW Director also looking at the issue and how maintenance for runoff can be done;
- Other - more requests for memorial benches — Keith is dusting off the policy on benches and placement and approval from Select Board and Conservation Commission.

### **Wiley Park Regulation Changes Proposed**

- Conservation Comm to hold Public Hearing on draft regulation changes (that include dogs leashed from June 15 - Labor Day) June 13th. Goal of proposed OSC monitoring may change depending on vote.
- Monitoring - purpose both to engage EDOA as partners with OSC for addressing the concerns - monitoring during the heavy summer use period — using observation and forms under development — draft to be shared with EDOA Directors for input and scheduling team with OSC members for selected times during the summer — other partners 1651, NRTPA, Staff available for some of the monitoring periods teams — NOT enforcement; DRAFT FORMS ARE new signs already UP? Yes - before monitoring .
- Priority times 11-2 and 4-6, Sat, Sun and a weekday. Keith thinks staff may be available.

### **Land Management - “priority parcels” wording will be removed from this topic (priority parcels will refer only to those parcels not owned by town, but priority to acquire if available).**

- Frances sent around the forms OSC designed over a year ago — need to “reassign” those that Peter Wade and Bob Cook covered — Rob Young will do Sandy Meadow, Linda D. SE Conservation area — Joanna noted that she has not visited Cottontail (her “assigned”) in over a year — others assigned areas not consistently visited either. This needs to be re-vitalized with broader volunteers and re-visit as a group all the areas —
- Identify/ recruit “Friends of xxxx”. Windmill Weekend and other venues to sign people up; Re-visit the CPA project for APP to use for volunteer land stewardship —(who is following up on this? Paul “People” app - ? Keith) — Rob notes that to use this platform, stewardship requirements

need to be integrated into the APP platform (again - this needs a lead person — another call for specific volunteers to assist?) See Windmill Weekend - below.

### **Sandy Meadow**

- Signs - Rob to check in with Karen - and Paul to move forward on signage.
- Higgins family planning to be in Eastham late July - early August - Joanna to pin down
- Keith to check with Nicole re: plans/resources for extending ADA trail, benches etc. - should OSC submit CPA application for funds for materials that DPW/DNR/AmeriCorps may need.
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### **Invasives**

- Knotweed by library - area 1/4" mesh installed (Saul) in test area; bike trail (1/2") coming up through mesh - squeezed off at 2-3' tall.
- Goats coming to Library to eat overgrown vegetation! Let's see how they do with knotweed!
- Joanna notes she is starting Year 6 on 1800 SF of knotweed on Mill Road bordering ECF parcel.

### **Old/New Business**

- Windmill Weekend - Sept 9-10 10-4; plan on OSC Booth - Rob has "pop up" shade, we have banner — try to partner with 1651, ECF, Conservation Commission for education and recruiting volunteers for projects and participation on Committees.
- Consider doing booth again at Turnip Fest for more Eastham residents.
- Reminder of Monarch Butterfly program - Bill Allan - Library June 21 1-2:30 - free milkweed plugs.

**Next Meeting:** June 21, 2022 . 3:00.

Meeting adjourned 4:10 pm

Respectfully Submitted, Joanna Buffington