

Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes: August 30, 2023

In Attendance: Frances Lewis, Joanna Buffington, Linda Dorflinger, Saul Fisher, Kait Logan, Karen Strauss

Absent: Rob Young

Staff: Hillary Greenberg-Lemos

Chair Lewis opened meeting at 3:05.

Minutes Approved :

April 26, 2023: Approved 6-0

July 19, 2023: Approved with corrections 6-0

OSRP -Land Management Plan Update

No meetings to report.

New research tool available: Shoreline Management Data Hub.

Karen observed that the new Conservation Agent, Alex Bates's expertise in Land Management will be helpful in developing a new plan for Eastham.

Conservation Restriction

Hillary is following up with Town administration re status of CR's.

Joanna noted that in the future the Community Preservation Committee will monitor completion of CR's on projects they are funding.

Wiley Park

Monitoring Program: Wiley Park Monitoring Program will end the last weekend in August. Mike Harnett and Ed Daniels have copies of all the monitoring sessions, Data will be reviewed by Conservation Commission.

Pond Health Signage: Discussion re protecting the pond's health with signage regarding the use of restrooms. Hillary recommended the Conservation Agent reach out to other towns in the area to see if there is effective signage that other towns in the area have developed to deal with this issue.

Higgins Property Dedication:

On Saturday, July 22'nd, we had a dedication of the Higgins Property. Many members of the Higgins family were able to attend, the Higgins donors and their children and grandchildren. Kait posted photos of the event on the Open Space Instagram and Facebook accounts and on the Eastham Community Facebook page.

Joanna asked if Town has moved on the missing sign and boundary encroachments at the Higgins Property. No information yet on this, Hillary offered to work with Paul Higgins in resolving this problem.

Kait shared Paul Higgins' suggestion that there be a small parking lot on Cross Cart Way to access the property. Hillary said to bring Alex Bates in on the planning as he is experienced in this field. There was discussion whether we would be able to meet the CPA application for this November. CPA applications are due Nov 1st.

CPA Applications:

Sandy Meadow Interpretive Signs:

Rob and Karen will work on the sign completions. Meet the Locals is completed except for some technical additions.

For the Bowl sign, we will get new drone photos of the bowl better reflecting the view from the overlook. Kait has contact information for drone operator.

The trail head sign needs to wait for the new information concerning the ADA trail extension.

Higgins Property CPA application: Open Space Stewardship Program:Higgins Property

Hillary said that Alex would be able to work with Paul Lagg on this for us. He has experience with a volunteer monitoring app which we could adapt to the Higgins Property.

Frances will send letter to CPA updating our current plans for this project.

Windmill Weekend

Discussion re details of booth set-up at Fair and schedule.

Beginning discussion of setting up a Friends of Eastham Open Space program. We reviewed a recruiting poster. Kait designed. The Contact person would be Conservation Agent. Volunteers would be invited to an Open Space Committee to get details of what is involved or maybe invited to walk the property with an OSC member.

Saul commented that all feedback the Conservation Department gets concerning this program should be shared with OSC. We will look at 2nd draft of poster at the next meeting

Old/New Business

None.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:07.

Next meeting : September 20, 2023 at 3:00.

Respectfully submitted,
Frances Lewis