

Water Resources & Open Space Joint Committee Meeting
Zoom Meeting
Thursday May 30, 2023
Meeting Minutes

Water Resources Committee members: Ben Robinson, Gerry Hokanson, Sheri Caseau, Chris Scott, John Best

Open Space & Recreation Committee: Cheryl Doble, Gerry Hokanson, Henry Stevenson

Select Board Member: John Cahill

Staff: Kirk Metell, Jared Meader, Melinda Byers

Horsley Witten Consultants: Rich Claytor, Casey Chatelain

Guest: Adam Epstein

John Best: Joins the meeting at 3:34pm

Melinda Loberg: Joins the meeting 3:52pm

Cheryl Doble: Calls Open Space & Rec meeting to order 3:22pm

Ben Robinson: Calls Water Resources Committee meeting to order 3:30pm

Rich Claytor: *Task 3 Review Stormwater Control Measures Alternatives*

Causeway Rd #1 -2.7 acres

Gets drainage off the streets and not run off from pipes.

Water Quality Swale-Inlet flume off the street and divert into the two-cell system on either side of the path. There is a wet swale on the lower side close to the existing wetland.

Sate Rd lot – 25.18 acres

Drains to vacant lot next to State Rd which drains to Causeway Rd 2 / Subsurface infiltration chambers. Diversion manhole takes small storms into the control practice and bypass and go down the drainpipe. The location for the manhole would need gravity flow into the control practice. There is a pretreatment component to prevent clogging.

Park North - .39 acres

Utilizing the existing low-lying area that gets back yard drainage from houses above it / Gravel wetlands (Has no open water, water level stays below the gravel surface). Could expand the drainage area by extending a swale.

Alternative #1- Maximize Stormwater Alternative

The playground and swing set relocated to the upper right-hand corner of the park. Far away from wetland facilities.

Causeway Rd #2 -6.02 acres Has existing swing set and playground facility.

Constructed Storm water treatment wetland.

Causeway Rd #3- 21.28 acres has a volleyball court and basketball court.

Basketball court is wet often. The volleyball court appears to have been raised.

Drains over land and collects into pipes at bottom of Causeway Rd / Constructed Stormwater treatment wetland.

Lagoon Pond Rd -.45 acres

Regrade the entire parking lot and pitch the runoff to the north towards the field and apply a berm. The field would be moved further in to keep the bench and bandstand in place. The infrastructure is pushed to the north to maintain the parking lot the way it is now. Gravel parking lot of Lagoon Pond Rd / Bioretention Island

Alternative #2 Retain Recreation

Keep the playground where it is and move the basketball court to the north of the constructed wetland. Keep the bioretention facility where it is and downsized the treatment system. On Causeway #2 the recommendation is fencing the playground area to create a barrier between those activities and the stormwater treatment system.

Name and Location	%Stormwater Volume Maximize	%Stormwater Volume Retain
	Stormwater Alternative 1	Recreation Alternative 2
Causeway Road 1	17%	17%
Causeway Road 2	97%	59%
Causeway Road 3 (Rec Courts)	67%	41%
State Road Vacant Lot	74%	74%
Park North (Low Point)	102%	102%
Lagoon Pond Road Parking Lot	115%	115%

The percentages represent the reduction in total volume of stormwater. That is used as a measure of nitrogen removal. The percentage is a metric in how much of the 1" storm can handle the standard amount of rainwater.

Casey Chatelain: None of the alternatives will be able handle 100% of stormwater to Veterans Park. The 102% or 115% is specific to the sub watersheds that feed to each alternative.

Rich Claytor: When retrofitting something that has no treatment, you want to do the best you can with removal. Cost effectively, anything less than ¼ of treatment volume has too much of a maintenance burden. If you can maintain 33% of treatment volume you can have a meaningful pollutant removal.

Ben Robinson: The Town needs to make some decisions around usage so you could move forward with a design.

Henry Stephenson: If we could move the basketball & volleyball courts to another site that would appear to help with some of these designs.

Rich Claytor leaves the meeting 4:02pm

Cheryl Doble: Is there any value in doing these in a phase format? We need to determine what we want to keep at the park and what can be moved. Also, the cost effectiveness of the drainage. Is it common to have fencing around a constructed wetland?

Casey Chatelain: Constructed wetlands do not normally have a fence around it but when you have them near a play area you would construct something for safety and liability.

Gerry Hokanson: Currently people park for the playground off Causeway. If we moved the playground, we would need to consider parking. What do we want to compromise on? We want to keep the ball fields and soccer fields at Veterans Park, so we need to evaluate the Basketball and Volleyball courts.

Ben Robinson: Kirk, could we consider the old location for the volleyball court that was near the path? Is that an area that we could consider relocation for the playground or stormwater control?

Kirk Metell: Yes. The reason the volleyball court was moved, was if there were two men's leagues at the same time, they were hitting the ball into the sand. The biggest part for the Open Space Committee is the overall use of the park. We entertained moving softball altogether. Most people that play drive to the park. It's not like soccer, where the kids walk over from the boat. If we build a different facility, I don't think we will lose those people from playing softball.

Cheryl Doble: Are there locations that you know of?

Kirk Metell: Behind the DPW for softball and for volleyball and basketball, possibly Lake Street.

Henry Stephenson: Would it be possible to convert some of the field behind the Emergency Services

building into basketball and volleyball courts? Could you construct a surface that would not affect the drainage underneath?

Kirk Metell: Yes, I think that it's possible. It could be a question for Environmental Partners.

Sheri Caseau: Does the Veterans Park property have any covenants? For example, that it was given to the town for recreational use only. I was wondering if there was even an option to move recreation from that location.

John Best: The recreation uses that are currently there may not have been stipulated when the park was created. What you choose to do at the park falls under the Conservation Commission.

Gerry Hokanson: One consideration is managing the nitrogen load into Lagoon Pond. The constructed wetlands help us do that. We need to consider what we lose, to do that.

Cheryl Doble: We need to look at the survey and come up with an understanding of the use. Explore other locations if we were to move things. The court games have a confined space.

Ben, your group may give some thought as to what we should remove.

Sheri Caseau: Have we looked at the effects for climate change? How long the stormwater project will last?

Casey Chatelain: We have not looked at the life of these stormwater practices. Constructed wetlands are resilient and have a long useful life. Swales etc. depends on maintenance. I don't have a specific number as to how long things will last. In the face of climate change, things that are more vegetative tend to be more adaptive and resilient.

Adam Epstein: I would suggest looking into the model created by the Central Park Conservatory. The great lawn is used as a central gathering place for New York. The nonprofit allows for a great deal of funds for the maintenance and preservation of the park. I would like to put this on the agenda at the next Open Space Committee to discuss a civic community effort for this purpose.

I shared a link for information about the model.

Cheryl Doble: I will send that to the committee and investigate putting it on our next agenda.

Motion to adjourn

Gerry Hokanson seconds

Vote:

Cheryl Doble (aye)

Gerry Hokanson (aye)

Henry Stephenson (aye)

Meeting adjourned 4:33pm

Ben Robinson: Do I have a motion to adjourn Water Resources Committee?

Gerry Hokanson motion to Adjourn

Sheri Caseau seconds

Vote:

Ben Robinson: (aye)

Sheri Caseau (aye)

Chris Scott (aye)

Gerry Hokanson (aye)

John Best (aye)

Motion passed: (5-0-0) meeting adjourns 4:33pm

Next Water Resources meeting is a hybrid meeting scheduled for July 13, 2023 @ 3:30pm at the
Emergency Services Facilities Conference Room