

Open Space and Recreation Committee

Town of Tisbury
Department of Public Works
115 High Point Lane, Tisbury, MA

Meeting Minutes

Date: January 19, 2021

Meeting called to order: 8:36

Place: This was a virtual meeting, in accordance with orders issued by the Governor during the current state of emergency. There is no in person attendance by the public, but persons may access this zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting <https://zoom.us/j/99753700619>

Meeting ID: 997 5370 0619 Passcode: 461078

Attendance: Committee – C. Doble, G Hokanson, C. Wallis, H. Stephenson
Kirk Metell, Ben Robinson

Discussion

1. Updates

- C. Doble reported that she and K. Metell would be meeting with Marie Maciel to contract for the work on the Owen Park upper terrace. She also said that they are having difficulty getting a general estimate on the cost to build the bandstand designed by Keith Moskow. Due to the unique design elements and the fact that concept drawings typically do not provide construction details, builders are reluctant to provide an estimate. C. Doble and B. Robinson spoke with Keith about this and he has offered to reach out to builders who might provide an estimate. He could also provide additional notes on the drawing that would make it easier to cost out.
- C. Doble spoke with J. Grande regarding the committee's request for advice from Town Counsel. She said that J. Grande spoke with Town Counsel last Thursday and that he would ask about our request and when we could expect to hear from him.
- G. Hokanson reported that he met with Ian Peach who is responsible for trail development at the Land Bank, Bill Veno and N. Weaver to walk the trail to the Sailor's Burial grounds and the area around the landfill. B. Veno is following up with the State to find information about activities permissible on a land fill. N. Weaver later walked the area with some local residents, one of whom expressed opposition to the development of trails in natural areas. C. Doble asked about their concerns and G. Hokanson replied that they were concerned about clearing for the new trail proposed to bypass the neighborhood and the shortcut that would connect the Bare Hill trail to Mud Puddle Rd.
- H. Stephenson suggested that we talk with Racheal Orr and Tony Peak who live in this area and have a long history of dealing with trails in the area. G. Hokanson will follow up.

- G. Hokanson reported that Kristin Geagan at Sherriff's Meadow is interested in working with us on a trail through the water Department property. She is also interested in adding Tisbury routes as outings on the MV Trails App. G. Hokanson noted that while we discussed putting the West Chop route on the MV trail app, we never voted on this. C. Wallis supported moving forward with the West Chop route as a trial run. She moved that we put the West Chop Route on the Trails MV App. H. Stephenson seconded the motion and it passed 4-0.
- C. Doble said that she has requested time on the Select Board's schedule to provide an update on the committee's work and that thought it would be a good idea for G. Hokanson to share his work on the trails.

2. Next steps in park assessment

- C. Doble reported that K. Metell had reviewed the committee's park assessments and provide a report that included funded projects/improvements that will be implemented in the spring and improvements/maintenance work that he felt needed addressing. He also provided a breakdown of his \$40,000 annual budget for park maintenance. C. Doble asked if this included opening in the spring and closing for the winter and he said that it did not. He mentioned that graffiti and some cleanup needs to be addressed each spring. He indicated that graffiti is an annual issue, particularly in Veterans Park.
- C. Wallis thought that there is more on our combined list of maintenance work than can be accomplished with the \$40,000 budget and that it would be useful to look more closely at tasks and costs. She asked if some of the work could be done by volunteers. K. Metell said that his staff can do some of the work inhouse (i.e. the trails at Lake Street and Owen Little Way). He mentioned that the area near the Red Barn at Veteran's Park could be cleared for a new use and he suggested it might be a good location for a picnic area and pavilion.
- K. Metell noted that Veteran's Park was built on a swamp and drainage is a constant problem. He thought some of the activity areas (kid's play equipment) might be moved to higher ground. C. Doble suggested that we look at the maintenance tasks, to understand what we can do within the budget, what we could do with volunteers and the need for addition funding. K. Metell mentioned that the town receives money from the summer concert at Veterans Field and he felt that some of that money should come back to the park. Our documentation could help to support that request. G. Hokanson suggested that our next steps would be to prioritize maintenance and improvement projects and determine funds necessary to accomplish this work. He thought that it would be important to show progress. C. Doble asked the group how they propose to go about this process. C. Wallis noted that there are some improvements that require little planning and that they would be a good place to start.
- C. Doble is going to work to gather existing base maps for the parks, scan those that are not in a digital format and make them available.

3. Benches

- H. Stephenson shared images of benches that could serve three different types of park settings found in our parks. He reviewed the existing concrete and wood benches, wood and metal benches and more rustic benches that could be placed along woodland trails. He noted that one disadvantage of the concrete bench is that it does not have an arm rest, which would be desirable for ADA compliance. K. Metell commented that the concrete benches constantly need repainting and are hard to maintain. H. Stephenson discussed the benches with metal legs and arm rests and wood slats for the seat and back of the bench. He felt that these met ADA

requirements and provided a good all around bench. He also discussed the teak benches found on many properties (West Chop Woods, Nat's Farm, etc.) noting that they did not require much maintenance. K. Metell suggested looking at the Barco website noting that they have a wide range of benches. While he realized different benches might be better than others in our varied settings, he would like to have some consistency in the park benches. K. Metell also mentioned that there is a financial benefit to ordering multiple benches at a time. He said that in the past, Trip Barnes has volunteered to pick up and deliver items for the town. G. Hokanson suggested that we pick two benches and compare them.

4. Discussion on the Marine Terminal

- H. Stephenson requested time to discuss the Marine Terminal which was just starting DRI review at the MVC and asked Ben Robinson to provide some background on this project for the committee. Ben shared perspective drawings of the site and pointed out a platform and stairs which provides public access to a small beach on the north east side of the property. H. Stephenson felt that it might be possible to create a larger public space and provide information on the wind turbines and energy production. B. Robinson asked if the committee would like to submit comments during the review process. He thought that it would be good to share these ideas early in the review process. It is being reviewed first at the Martha's Vineyard Commission and then it will be reviewed by the Tisbury Site Plan Review Committee and finally by the Planning Board.
- C. Doble reminded the Committee of Goal 4 of our Open Space and Recreation Plan -- *To increase waterfront access and recreation opportunities*. She noted that one of the actions under that goal is to secure public access to the waterfront through project review procedures, conditioning and Chapter 91 licensing. She thought writing a letter to raise the potential to improve public access seemed reasonable. She asked whom to send the letter to and B. Robinson suggested that we send it to the Tisbury Site Plan Review Committee and Planning board. G. Hokanson said that he would like to visit the site to gain a better understanding or H. Stephenson's proposal, but felt that his ideas seemed reasonable. B. Robinson will bring this idea and interest up at the January 25th MVC LUCP meeting. Henry will begin a draft of the letter for our committee to review. C. Doble will check with P. Harris to see when the Site Plan Review Committee meets next.
- C. Doble will schedule a meeting to visit this site, the Lagoon Pond area, Boat ramp, Bridge Park and Eastville Beach.

4. Agenda items for the February 5, meeting

- Discussion with Chris Seidel on story mapping
- Next steps in Park Assessment
- Updates – Benches, Survey

G. Hokanson move to adjourn the meeting at 10:20. H Stephenson seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Submitted by C. Doble