

Open Space and Recreation Committee

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

Meeting Minutes

Date: September 19, 2022

Meeting called to order: 11:34am

Place: Zoom

Attendance: Committee members - Cheryl Doble (CD) Carolyn Wallis (CW), James Burrows (JB), Gerry Hokanson (GH), Henry Stephenson (HS) Guest - Ben Robinson (BR)

1. Approval of Minutes

CW moved, CD seconded a resolution that the Minutes of the Meeting of August 15, 2022 be approved. Resolution passed 2-0, 1 abstain.

2. Updates

- **West Chop Tennis Outreach Program** – JB will comment on keypad access system and tennis registration at the next meeting.
- **Tennis Courts General** – Construction of the Church Street courts started with site grading.

3. Current CPC Projects

- **Veteran' s Park Plan** - GH will be the lead in working with Horsley Witten on the plan. CD will ask Marie at DPW to send GH the Horsley Witten contract.
- **Tashmoo Springs Park** – CD will meet with Jane Varconda about the site and confirm her directions re invasive plant and shrub removal and walkways. Henry Stephenson has produced new drawings of the kayak landing elements.
- **Owen Park Bandstand** - since Kirk Metell found that there are no footers under the bandstand, the issue is whether a new bandstand would need to construct new foundations and/or how to anchor a new building to the existing base. BR noted that the foundation appears to be sound as the building has not shifted or moved since its construction in the 1960's. At this point, we need Keith Moscow to develop a more simplified design for the bandstand and for the engineers to determine how the bandstand is supported in order to understand how to proceed with drawings. Will need \$15-\$20K for construction documents and enough funds to cover construction estimates or rehabilitation estimates. Suggestion is to seek CPC funds. GH asked if there is a mechanism to communicate with Town residents about the status of the project, since it is complicated and information should be communicated.

4. CPC Applications – September 2022

Possible applications were discussed. CD will discuss with Kirk for approval to proceed.

- **Blue Trail on Lagoon Pond and Lake Tashmoo** – Signs, graphics, installation. Discussion focused on getting more information on site locations - water depth and context of each landing location. Sheriff's Meadow has agreed to be a partner and the Land Bank is also interested and would take the project to their Board for review if we decide to pursue. Proceed.
- **Shed at Church Street** – also need WiFi capacity. CD is checking with Town about cost of a router and how that could work. CW has costs for a Nantucket shed. Proceed.
- **Park Amenities** – CW has gotten costs for wood and metal benches for Church Street, ADA picnic tables. There is enough funding from last year for bike racks. Proceed.

- Website for Tisbury Parks – GH suggested that Tisbury Waterworks developed a website for \$4500. The Committee has had numerous discussions about the need for a website and particularly with the tennis program, need for a location to house the tennis registrations and fees. CW will develop if Kirk agrees to put this one in.
- Strategy to improve the quality of woodlands, develop strategy for native plant landscaping in the parks. Potential tree nursery. It was decided that we need more detail and research on these needs, so put this off until next year.
- Fund for shade trees in downtown Tisbury – this will require a planting plan. Also put off until next year.
- Park Signage – a need that has been discussed every year. Need more work to develop a plan.
- Lake Street – need to get a plan in place so we can be ready with a cost estimate. Also a next year's project.
- Owen Park Bandstand – funds for construction documents, added funds to cover likely construction costs of new construction or rehabilitation. Discuss with Kirk.

5. Veteran's Park – Aftermath of Beach Road Weekend

It was reported that the state of the park fields post the concert is very bad. BR indicated that much of the problem is that the Town never recognized the damage potential to the park's playing fields and has never maintained the fields at an appropriate level. He indicated that in 2018, the Field Fund supported a complete renovation of the fields and continued to maintain them. The Town then declined to continue the work of the Field Fund and the fields have deteriorated ever since. BR suggested that the Park needs a year-round turf maintenance plan that could also identify work that should be done prior to the concert and what the concert operator would need to do after in order to have the fields ready for the fall season. The Field Fund uses a Sport Turf Specialist to maintain the high school field, and the OB and Chilmark school fields. BR suggested that the Town has not given the concert operator enough direction of how to treat the fields. The operator would like to have a Friends of Veterans Park group to work with on the proper field restoration. The Town is scheduling a meeting to discuss Veteran's Park and these issues.

6. Adjourn Meeting

GH moved, CW seconded, approved 5-0. Meeting ended 12:40pm.

7. Next Meeting - 10/3, 10:30am.

Submitted by Carolyn Wallis