

Open Space and Recreation Committee

Town of Tisbury

Department of Public Works

115 High Point Lane, Tisbury, MA

Meeting Minutes

Date: January 9, 2023

Meeting called to order: 10:31am

Place: Zoom

Attendance: Committee members - Cheryl Doble (CD), Carolyn Wallis (CW), Gerard Hokanson (GH), James Burrows (JB)

Also attending: Dan Doyle (MVC), Nancy Weaver (Land Bank)

Approval of Minutes

CW moved that the Minutes of the December 19, 2022 meeting be accepted. CD seconded. Resolution carried 4-0.

1. West Tisbury Technical Memorandum - Shared Use Path

- Dan Doyle joined to provide the background to this memorandum. The West Tisbury Complete Streets Committee has proposed a shared use path (SUP) along Old County Road. An issue raised by MassTrails in review of a grant application to fund this SUP was a lack of network connectivity - specifically, a connection through Tisbury.
- In considering options, WT felt that an SUP along State Road was problematic due to topography on the west side of the road and utility poles on the east side. Trees would also need to be removed. An alternative to follow Old Holmes Hole Road from Stoney Hill Road into Tisbury was brought to the OSR Committee for consideration.
- Dan shared a graphic showing the route and photos of the current condition of Old Homes Hole Road. He noted that 1.37 miles of this route was in Tisbury (total distance 1.6 miles).
- Improvements in Old Homes Hole Road are needed for this purpose: Dan noted that the route is a trenched cart path in places (different grades), and mentioned exposed roots and areas of erosion (impacting materials to be selected). JB noted that huge puddles developed after rains and that there may be a need for widening to accommodate both bikes and walkers.
- Dan reported that the Land Bank is generally supportive of the improvement plan, but there was a concern that the Land Bank may not be permitted to “pave” routes through their properties. CW raised concerns that the improvements might constitute a change of use and might raise objections from private property owners. There was also a concern about the need to use Stoney Hill Road, a Private Road, for part of the route.

- GH mentioned that the OSR Committee had previously discussed the desirability of a bike route connecting to WT. This was also brought up by the MVC Bike/Ped Committee in our discussion with them on their suggestions for Tisbury. Hence, this topic is an item for the Committee to consider further. Big concerns are 1) cost and 2) Land Use/Ownership. It was agreed that the first step was to seek help in assessing specific improvements needed and the cost. A plan could then be taken to property owners for discussion.
- Dan reported that there was \$14,000 left for the fiscal year in an MVC Island Transportation Engineer agreement with Tisbury. CD wondered if we could use the same engineers as WT (Howard Stein Hudson).
- ACTION: 1) CD agreed to check with Jay Grande on the availability of the \$14,000 noted above. 2) Nancy Weaver will schedule a walk of the route for committee members.

2. Tennis Program Update

- Several documents were forwarded by CW prior to the meeting: An Excel spreadsheet detailing one time and monthly costs, as well as expected income; documents describing gate lock details; and a copy of a Dec 31, 2022, email from CW to Kirk Metell, detailing cost summaries and what was needed from DPW was provided. A meeting between Kirk, CW, and CD is now scheduled for Wednesday (1/11/2023)
- CW noted that the specifications for a gate did not include automatically closing after entry/exit. While Church Road fencing is covered by an approved Town Meeting warrant article, the modified gate will be an added expense.
- The Committee reviewed the Excel expense-income spreadsheet. Notes: 1) The \$1724 listed for the Remote Lock system does not include installation. 2) The CourtReserve costs listed do not include the credit card transaction charges - 2.75% of the transaction charge plus \$0.30 per transaction. These costs would apply to annual memberships as well as one-time use costs. JB is checking whether CourtReserve has the mechanism to pass these charges on to users.
- As a follow up to an Dec 19 Committee meeting action item, CW reported that OB charges \$5/person for pickle ball. For a 4-player reservation the proposed Tisbury charge (per court rather than per person) would be the same. OB has a person present to collect money - this is a not something Tisbury wants to do.
- CW pointed out that a fence is needed between tennis and pickle ball courts at Lake Street. This was not specifically built in to the fencing estimate.
- JB suggested that fully implementation of the gate lock and software plans at the Lake Street courts was likely not feasible for 2023. CW suggested that perhaps a sign could be posted this year indicating that there would be no charge for 2023, but that this would change in the future.
- Next steps will depend on the outcome of the Wednesday meeting with Kirk Metell.

3. Next Meeting Agenda

The next meeting will be Monday, January 23, 2023. the meeting will be used to review 2022 Committee accomplishments and 2023 objectives. CD confirmed that all Committee members had access to the goals within the Tisbury 2019 Open Space and Recreation Plan. These will be used a basis for 2023 planning. CD also noted that she had asked Pam Bennett for input on addition committee members or members for subcommittees.

Adjourn Meeting

CW moved, CD seconded, approved 3-0. Meeting ended 12:05pm.

Next Committee meeting is January 23, 2023, 10:30am, by Zoom.

Submitted by Gerard Hokanson