

## Open Space and Recreation Committee

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

### Meeting Minutes

**Date:** March 20, 2023

**Meeting called to order:** 10:42am

**Place:** Zoom

**Attendance:** Committee members - James Burrows (JB), Cheryl Doble (CD), Gerard Hokanson (GH)  
Others Attending: Bill Veno (MVC), Dan Doyle (MVC), Nancy Weaver (MV Land Bank), Rachel Baumrin (West Tisbury Complete Streets), Don Keller, Elaine Miller, Greg Politz

#### 1. Bike Routes

- Dan Doyle reviewed previous Committee discussions regarding work originating with the West Tisbury Complete Streets Committee and a proposal for a shared use path that would connect WT with the Tisbury B2 district. A Technical Memorandum, prepared for WT Complete Streets by Howard Stein Hudson, has previously been distributed.
- Discussion focused on a bike route along Old Holmes Hole Road (OHHR). Ownership of property along this route was determined to be A) a Land Bank easement through private property in WT, B) the Land Bank's Tisbury Meadows Preserve, and C) Tisbury Town property. Hence both Land Bank and Town approval would be needed for this project to proceed.
- It was previously agreed that improvements in this path would be needed for safe biking, but due the historic nature, widening or paving was not considered a good idea.
- Nancy noted that, per her discussions with James Lengyel (Executive Director, Land Bank), the Land Bank has agreed to maintain (keep trimmed) vegetation along the entire route, according to Land Bank standards. This should improve sight lines along the path.
- Two alternatives to following OHHR were suggested: 1) Nancy suggested following Stoney Hill Rd across to the SUP along Edgartown Road, and 2) Bill suggested creating a new path for segments of OHHR where it would not be feasible to make OHHR a sufficiently safe pathway for cyclists and pedestrians to share.
- a new path running parallel to Old Holmes Hole Road.
- The consensus among meeting attendees was to utilize OHHR in its current condition as a "Greenway" with signage to clearly indicate the nature of the route - terrain and surface conditions - and the potential need to walk bikes along parts of the path.
- The Open Space Committee will coordinate another walk along OHHR with Bill Veno (and potentially Chris Seidel) to chart conditions along the route. This would precede (or avoid) hiring an engineer to assess the path.

#### 2. Beach Road - Lagoon Pond Road Connector

- CD took advantage of the group assembled to discuss how to move forward with this connector. The Safe Harbor Marina has committed to supporting a route through their property, but completing a route to Beach Road is an issue. One potential route would go through Tisbury Marketplace, potentially ending up behind the Beach Road restaurant. This would likely require an expensive land purchase. An alternative route would be through the Teles property to the northwest of Tisbury Marketplace. It was suggested that meetings with representatives of the two owners should be set up ASAP; these meeting should involve Bill Venio and Dan Doyle from the MVC and two representatives of the Open Space Committee.

### **3. Don Keller Introduction**

- Don thanked the Committee for the opportunity to listen in. He was impressed with the knowledge of the meeting participants. Don is interested in biking-related issues and would like to be invited to future committee meetings on that topic.

### **4. Horsley Witten Veteran's Park Project Update**

- Tisbury comments on HW Task 2 deliverables (Stormwater Control Measures) were forwarded to HW on March 10. Rich Claytor confirmed receipt and indicated that they are moving forward with Task 3 of the project, which would further develop the SCMs identified, and provide two alternative layouts for recreational uses, incorporating the SCMs. HW is targeting mid-April for delivering the Task 3 deliverable to the Committee.
- In the comments to HW, we suggested including a berm, as suggested by the CZM-funded coastal resilience study, into the SCM plans. Rich noted this would require further discussion. He is concerned about either impacting the existing adjacent regulated wetland or disrupting the currently maintained areas of the park. Further, HW's assessment is that the berm would likely cause more issues than benefits. Gerry suggested that, in the interest of moving this project forward, we let HW develop the proposed SCMs as they suggest and revisit the berm concept at a later date if the coastal resilience project moves forward. Committee members present agreed to proceed accordingly. Gerry will let Rich know.
- Side note: Bill Venio commented that the EPA was unhappy that the highway drainage project had eliminated Veteran's Field and Bass Creek as a part of the management of stormwater flooding of 5-Corners.
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### **5. Tennis Update**

- JB met with Heidi Rydzewski to discuss plans at Church Street. Heidi (and Kirk) would like to take a "one step at a time" approach - wait for CPC fund approval, then for installation of a new shed at Church Street, then router installation and remote lock installation, followed by setting up a Town CourtReserve account. It was decided that money collected from users through CourtReserve would be channeled to DPW Park Funds.
- Following this approach, the Committee agreed to target the weekend of Memorial Day to complete all of the necessary activities to open the courts.

- CD will speak with CW to potentially have her talk with Kirk to proceed at risk, since the above activities would be covered first by available DPW funds, which would then be reimbursed from CPC funds.

### **Adjourn Meeting**

GH moved, JB seconded, approved 3-0. Meeting ended 12:20pm.

Next Committee meeting is Monday, April 3, 2023, 10:30am, by Zoom.

Submitted by Gerard Hokanson