

Open Space and Recreation Committee

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

Meeting Minutes

Date: April 18, 2023

Meeting called to order: 10:33am

Place: Zoom

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

Approval of Minutes

HS moved that the Minutes of the March 20, 2023 meeting be accepted. JB seconded. Resolution carried 3-0-1.

JB moved that the Minutes of the April 3, 2023 meeting be accepted. CW seconded. Resolution carried 3-0-2.

1. Veterans Park

- GH reported communication from Richard Claytor on Task 3 of this project. HW plans to provide two alternatives that incorporate all current recreational facilities (ball fields, playground, volleyball, basketball, etc) into the design of the proposed stormwater control measures (SCM). HW will also incorporate a walking path in both alternatives. SCM size may have to be reduced to incorporate all functions, also reducing pollution removal effectiveness. Task 3 also includes a comparison to a “no action” alternative. With HW’s current workload, they expect to complete this deliverable by the end of April.
- GH suggested that the information from HW be reviewed first by the OSR Committee, largely to see how recreational facilities are incorporated, then shared in a meeting with the Water Resources Committee, Jay Grande and Kirk Metell.
- GH also noted that HW would deliver a modified design for the “vacant lot” SCM (off State Rd.). This in turn would be communicated to MassDOT, after being shared with the Town.

2. Tennis Update

- CD noted that the Church Street courts have been completed and the gate locked. The status of the sprinkler system is unknown. The opening of the courts is till targeted for Memorial Day weekend. The CourtReserve account needs to be switched over to the Town (name, billing info, transfer of fees to the Town, etc). JB will contact Jon Snyder to get info to communicate to CourtReserve and agree on a start date for Town management of the account.

- Plans are in place to install the shed, wifi, and lock after the anticipated Town Meeting approval.
- The current suggestion is for DPW to train an existing employee to perform daily maintenance. This needs confirmation from Kirk. Relying on DPW rather than a student may allow courts to be open for an extended season (Spring through Fall). JB to check with David McNamara on availability for training a DPW employee.
- CD reported that Quitsa work on the parking lot and landscaping has been paused. The larger size of the courts (to render them regulation size) has impacted other parts of the design plan. The slopes of the path from the parking lot to the courts, and the soil fill between the trees and the courts, are steeper than anticipated. Also, the path surface material is stone dust which may quickly erode and wash into the courts. Potential solutions are to plant ground cover below the trees, and to use some form of pavers for the path, sloped to allow water to run off of the side. In addition, CD plans a new design layout for the parking lot, potentially including diagonal parking and a redesigned planting strip along the road. CD plans a meeting with Kirk on Thursday (4/20/23) to discuss these Church St. issues and the budget for addressing them. Top priority is to resolve landscaping/path concerns adjacent to the courts. It is hoped that Quitsa/DPW work can be completed on these items next week (week of 4/24).
- JB inquired whether a Comcast order and a request for door lock work can be scheduled now. CD will talk to Heidi about scheduling.

3. Bike Route Planning

- CD noted that she had walked Old Holmes Hole Road with Dan Doyle (MVC); Dan came equipped with the MVC's GPS device to make records on surface and slope conditions at specific places along the route. Also accompanying them was Andrew Lester, an individual with a home on MV who has experience in trail design. They found that much of the Old Holmes Hole Road path was on Town of Tisbury property. Andrew suggested an alternative surface material for the path. He may be able to help with fund raising for this route. Next steps are to look at Dan's mapping output, and invite Dan/Andrew to attend an upcoming OSR Committee meeting.
- With regard to the Lagoon Pond Road-Beach Road connector, CD noted that coordination with Sam Dunn and/or Teles Landscaping would be a next step. A route through the Tisbury Marketplace/Beach Road Restaurant area may be complicated by the reluctance of property owners to grant the necessary easement.

4. Vineyard Wind - Interpretive Signs

- CD has been contacted by Richard Andres about Vineyard Wind's ideas for placing interpretive/informational signs in the harbor area. They contacted her after recalling the OSR Committee's interest in an informational sign at the beach across from Wind's Up. These signs would both provide information about the Vineyard Wind project and provide historical information about points along the harbor. They have reached out to the MV Museum for input and support.
- Heather Seger and Bow Van Riper from the Museum are interested in participating, though not by hosting an exhibit at this time. Next step may be identifying spots where there's a story to tell - starting with the Museum, and down Beach Road to Beach Street Extension.

5. Anticipated Town Meeting Questions

- CD will discuss with Kirk his taking the lead in following up on any questions about OSR Committee-related CPC projects at Town Meeting. CD will speak if necessary on the proposed bandstand project. It is hoped that Kirk will handle the Church St. project (shed/wifi) and park amenities. GH volunteered to help in addressing questions on the website project. If there's pushback on the tennis court CPC project, it was agreed that we respond that this will enable more efficient management of the courts, scheduling of another round of last year's successful tennis clinics, and raising money for maintaining the courts.

6. Next Meeting - Dates and Agenda Items

- It was agreed that the Committee would meet in May on Tuesdays - May 2 and May 16, both at 10:30am.
- Agenda items suggested for the May 2 meeting were 1) HW Task 3 deliverables, 2) Tennis Program, and 3) Web design. CD felt that May 16 may be a better time to discuss bike routes, inviting Dan Doyle and Andrew Lester.

Adjourn Meeting

HS moved, JB seconded, approved 5-0. Meeting ended 11:53 am.

Next Committee meeting is Tuesday, May 2, 2023, 10:30am, by Zoom.

Submitted by Gerard Hokanson