

Open Space and Recreation Committee

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

Meeting Summary

Date: March 3, 2020

Time: 8:30

Place: DPW

Attendance: Doble, Hokanson, Metell, Stephenson, Welch

Discussion

Report from Kirk Metell

- Park maintenance
 - K. Metell reported that the DPW contracts out much of the Town Park Maintenance. DPW oversees contractors who do most of the mowing, planting, and general landscape work. They work on an hourly rate as needed. The DPW mows the cemeteries and the Tashmoo overlook (twice a year).
- Specific park details and updates. K. Metell.
 - Veterans Park suffers from overuse. This year there will be no fall soccer to allow time for field maintenance including addition of topsoil in places and reseeding. He is planning to hire a contractor to do hydro seeding. Long term the town will need to look for additional fields. The Beach Rd. Concert will be occurring again this summer at Veterans' Park.
 - Tashmoo Overlook and Spring Building - Each year there are 12 – 18 rentals of the Spring building property. The rental fees cover the maintenance costs. There is also an amphitheater on the property that is used and managed by the Playhouse for no charge. This year the playhouse requested Community Preservation funds to improve accessibility to work towards achieving ADA compliance.
 - Lake Street – The DPW is currently clearing some downed trees and brush cutting a path from the upper park to the boat landing. The tennis courts get a lot of use. The bathrooms are currently closed but K. Metell is working to renovate and reopen them. H. Stephenson mentioned that a plan had been prepared for this park many years ago that was never implemented. G Hokanson mentioned that this area of the Town has limited recreation facilities. There was general discussion noting that it

could be productive to meet with the neighborhood residents to see if there are additional activities that they might like at the park.

- Paying for maintenance and improvements
 - K. Metell reported that he has an annual budget and that there is a line item for parks in this budget. In addition, he looks for grant opportunities and applies to the CPC for recreation funding. Any capital improvement requires an article at Town Meeting.
- Benches and seating areas
 - G. Hokanson brought up the desirability of having benches in town where people might sit to enjoy a view or get some shade. K. Metell explained that the cost to repairing the traditional concrete benches had risen. Now the Town is purchasing aluminum benches with a black powder coating in the downtown area. There was a brief discussion regarding the types of benches in the downtown area versus the style that might be used at the boat landings and recreation areas.

Storage of committee materials and work

D. Welch asked about our ability to store committee work, meeting summaries, etc. on the Town website or some other location. K. Metell offered to talk with Heidi Rydzewski and D. Welch offered to develop an organizational framework for storage of committee materials.

The use of maps and their acquisition

Committee members have been reaching out to Chris Seidel at the MVC for maps. C. Doble volunteered to invite her to the next committee meeting to discuss our use of maps, mapping strategies and the best way to go about working with her.

Next Committee meeting - March 17, 2020 Draft Agenda

- Discussion with Chris Seidel regarding mapping needs and support
- Discussion of priority committee tasks
- Review of progress on additions to the 2019 Plan.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 AM

Submitted by Cheryl Doble