

Open Space and Recreation Committee

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

Meeting Minutes

Date: August 4, 2020

Time:

Place: This was a virtual meeting, in accordance with orders issued by the Governor during the current state of emergency. There is no in person attendance by the public, but persons may access this zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96666739138>

Meeting ID: 966 6673 9138

Attendance: C. Doble, G. Hokanson, H. Stephenson, C. Wallis, D. Welch, K. Metell

Historic Commission: C. Whitaker

Meeting called to order: 8:34 am

Discussion

CPC

G. Hokanson moved that C. Wallis be elected as the committee representative to the Tisbury Community Preservation Commission. D. Welch seconded the motion and the board voted 5-0 in favor.

Center/Church Street Tennis Courts

1. Update

C. Wallis reported that she had formed a smaller committee to finish gathering the remaining details on the tennis courts. The committee includes L Pashman (tennis rep), James Burrow (neighborhood rep) and C. Whitaker, John Batcheller (Historic Commission). She also reported on information gathered from Cape and Island Tennis, the group that is currently is under contract with the Town to help open up the courts each year. The small group will be working on the following:

- Understanding better ways to control access
- Costs of different surface options and maintenance both annual and life cycle.
- A survey of neighborhood preferences regarding future use of the park
- Developing a process to weigh options and make recommendations

C. Whitaker, felt that C. Wallis's report was complete. He also reported that he would be sharing his report on the tennis courts at the Historic Commission's meeting on 8/5. C. Doble requested that a copy of the document be shared with the OSR committee. C. Whitaker replied that it would be sent to the OSR committee after it was presented to the Historic Commission.

Walking Trails

1. G. Hokanson shared a PowerPoint presentation with the committee entitled Connecting Edgartown Road with High Point Lane. The presentation and narrative text covered existing conditions and the fact that, while there are trail opportunities, there currently is no connection. The presentation showed possible connecting trails that included Mud Puddle Rd. and The Bare Hill trail and a proposed new trail crossing the leach field and climbing to the Park and Ride site. He also reported walking a trail along the water line with N. Weaver and B. Veno that lead from Sailors Burying ground to the far side of the Park and Ride connecting with High Point Lane. He noted that this was a very pleasant walk. He pointed out that most of this proposed trail network is existing but that there are no signs to guide people, there are barriers and at points along the route, it passes very near private property.
 2. Next steps
 - Find out if private roads can be used by the public for walking.
 - In the fall explore the potential of clearing a trail from the leach field to the park and ride.
 - Find out if permission is required to place directional signs. We don't have directional signs in town, what might the directional signs look like?
 - Share this presentation with the Planning Board.
 - Meet with the Select Board to share this presentation and to raise the possibility of working with the Land Bank to reroute the trail to avoid private property and to establish an MOU with the Land bank to help with maintenance. The Committee was in agreement 4-0 to recommend an MOU to support this collaboration with the Land Bank.
- K. Metell volunteered to contact M. Valley to find out about any restrictions with walking over the Landfill and to ask J. Grande about consulting Town Counsel regarding public use of private roads for walking. C. Whitaker mentioned the Law of Adverse Possession might provide public access on these Roads. C. Wallis mentioned that Sherriff's Meadow, the Land Bank, and some Tisbury residents are working on a Cross Island Trail. She suggested that we communicate and coordinate our efforts with them.

Survey

1. Development

C. Doble reported that she and D. Welch had started on a survey and will distribute a draft prior to our next meeting for committee members to review. We will discuss the survey and committee edits at the next meeting. When the survey is complete, L. Morrison at the MVC will put it up using their account.
2. Distribution

The group discussed strategies for promoting the survey to get broad participation. C. Doble mentioned that in the past she has used the Town Website, Vision Forum email list, the Tisbury School email list, and the library for public outreach. The committee also suggested Clubs, sports groups, and the bike coalition. K. Metell said that he also has email addresses for groups that he is in contact with about town recreation (softball, soccer, etc.).

Park visitations

Park visits are underway, we have finished an inventory at Lake street and are planning a visit to Owen Park.

Next Meeting Agenda

August 18, 2020 at 8:30

Report from Center Street Tennis Courts Committee

Review survey draft and finalize

Report next steps on trails

Next park visits

Update from K. Metell

The committee unanimously approved the Meeting Minutes of July 21, 2020

Meeting was adjourned at 9:55 AM

Submitted by Cheryl Doble