



Manchester-By-The-Sea Meeting Posting

Notice of Public Meeting – (As required by M.G.L.Ch.30A §18-25)

Board/Committee: Open Space & Recreation Committee
Day & Date: Monday, July 15, 2024
Time: 4:00 PM
Location: Room 7 and Zoom
Signature: Sue Croft
Attendees: Olga Hayes, Terry Cowman, Helen Bethell, Nick de Sherbinin, Marc Resnick, Sue Croft

MINUTES

- Olga Hayes called the meeting to order and welcomed/introduced the newest committee member, Nick de Sherbinin.
- Gordon Woods – Helen Bethell had drafted a document that provides a profile of Gordon Woods at the recommendation of the Trust for Public Land. She explained that this organization provides guidance and contacts to other groups interested in purchasing land for conservation. She went on to say that she thinks the committee should approach MECT and Greenbelt to provide a letter formally requesting their support of conservation of Gordon Woods. Previous attempts by the Town to request financial support for the purchase of land in Gordon Woods by MECT and Greenbelt have been unsuccessful. Helen also noted a state program that will reimburse the Town 52% for the purchase of land acquired for conservation. Marc Resnick said that the Manchester portion of the land in Gordon Woods (which consists of about 10 acres) is assessed at about \$800,000. The land presents several challenges with regards to building in that it is not currently zoned for residential building, only a small portion is buildable and there is no water/sewer going to that area. An appraisal of the land would take all these conditions into consideration.
- Current Status of Parking/Easement at Newport Park – KP Law has begun work on the easement documentation and DPW is working on scheduling the survey. Olga brought Nick up to speed on the project and its history.
- Outstanding Resource Water Designation for Sawmill Brook – The Town plans to hold off on this designation for now as it may have unintended consequences.
- Western Woods – Need an update from Jeff Bodmer-Turner on the status of fire road and wildfire project. Anticipating the study that was produced for that project will provide guidance as to how to repair the trailhead at the end of Crooked Lane. MassTrails grant or other grant opportunities may be options for funding this work.
- Minutes from the 6/3 meeting were unanimously approved.
- Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 19 at 4:00 pm.
- Other – Terry reminded everyone that there's a cleanup scheduled at Black and White beaches on Sat 7/20.
- The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 pm.