



MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA

CONSERVATION COMMISSION • TOWN HALL
Manchester-by-the-Sea, Massachusetts 01944-1399
Telephone (978) 526-4397 FAX (978) 526-2001

Open Space and Recreation Committee

January 3, 2022 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86401073595?pwd=L0o5M3NIUldHYzB2UXlxaMs1VWJpQT09>

Meeting ID: 864 0107 3595

Passcode: 884066

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Olga Hayes, Steve Gang, Curtis Rising and Helen Bethell

Members Absent: Sheila Linehan, Al Centner

Others Present: Eva Palmer, minute taker

Steve Gang, Acting Co-Chair, performed a rollcall at 6:34 pm to confirm attendance.

- November 1, 2021 minutes

Vote: To accept the minutes as written.

Motion: Olga Hayes

Second: Helen Bethell

Actual Vote: 4-0

- Water Resource Protection Task Force
 - The task force will be operating under the Conservation Commission and under the authority of the Board of Selectpeople. The goal of the Water Resources Task Force is to recommend a long-term strategy, implementation steps and metrics for accountability to protect Manchester's drinking water.. There will be meetings every 4-6 weeks. Mr. Gang nominated Helen Bethell to serve as the member for this task force and Olga Hayes seconded and offered to act as an alternate. The Committee approved these nominations 4-0.
- Western Woods Community Discussion
 - Olga Hayes felt that this subject should be moved to the next meeting when Sue Brown, Town Planer, was available. This is regarding putting out an invite to the community to attend several forums about the Western Woods where the public could ask questions and make comments.
- Research Public Access to Western Woods
 - Olga informed the committee that Sue Brown had submitted an application to the CPC for money (\$7500) to research 12 properties that have access points to the Western Woods. These properties are at Brookwood, Crooked Lane, Highland Avenue and Walker Road. The money would be used to research if access to Western Woods is part of the homeowner's deed. Once research is complete then the committee can decide what the next step would be such as approaching the property owners to keep open access to the trailheads. Steve Gang suggested the use of permanent markers.

- Update Open Space Recreation Plan
 - There has been no update on this. It was waiting for DCR approval in December.
- Update on Brochure Map
 - Sheila Linehan and Helen Bethell worked on the map. Helen added parking areas. Helen was concerned with the lack of sidewalks on Pine Street. She felt that the map just needed to be two colors. Committee members agreed. This map is meant to show the public where they can walk. The list of properties and descriptions needed editing. Helen will see if it could be condensed to one 8 ½ X 11" page. She wasn't sure that much information was needed. The public could be directed to the MECT map if they wanted more information. Helen will connect with Sheila to update the brochure.
- Update on Parking at Newport Park
 - Olga had talked with Greg Federspiel and he told her it was "on his agenda". The proposal is if the Town gave more parking to the public then trash pick up at Manchester Housing would be paid for.
- Other Business
 - Olga wondered If the tree that had fallen on the new trail had been removed? She would take a hike and find out. It was a huge tree that had fallen at the inner entry to Powderhouse trail. The whole canopy came down. CATS were going to tackle it along with some other trees.
- Next Meeting
 - Scheduled for Monday February 21, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.
- The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 pm.