

Town of Eastham
Open Space Committee Minutes
December 10, 2014

Members Present: Bob Gurney, chair; Bob Cook, Peter Wade, Stephen Smith, Karen Baker
meeting called to order at 7 PM +/-

November minutes are not ready for publication, will be ready soon

1. 1651 Forest Advisory Committee. Stephen Gulrich came to the meeting to share information and discuss recent events pertaining to the 1651 Forest Advisory Committee. Mr Gulrich learned via a Cape Codder newspaper article that his committee had been dissolved at the November Selectman's Meeting. He explained the current situation and the history of the 1651 Forest Project. Mr Gulrich stated that there were several inaccuracies in the reporting by the newspaper and wondered if these issues might have colored the decision by the BOS. Also, neither Mr Gulrich or Mr LaBranch , the two active members.as of this date had not received any notice formal or informal about the dissolution...He is hoping to meet with the Selectmen, and propose they overturn their decision, and he has many reasons why he thinks they did not have the authority to make the decision in the first place. A motion was made and seconded to send a letter of support to reinstate the Advisory Committee, to provide oversight on this important component of Wiley Park stewardship.
2. Open Space and Recreation Plan. Mr Gurney presented a list of items provided by the absent ad hoc member of our committee, Dick Hilmer who has been working diligently and tirelessly on behalf of the Open Space Committee, with skill and enthusiasm we have not seen in a long time! He (Dick) reports that the OSRP is nearly completed, save some final editing, and a weekend perusal by Ms Vanderhoef for final editing
3. 700 Dyer Prince Road. The placement of the simple parking area proposed by the Open Space Committee has been approved by the town administrator. This needed to be resolved before the CR can be approved-this property being purchased with CPA funds. Peter Wade. CPA chair will "keep it on his radar", to keep it going forward.
4. Terrapin Cove. It has been learned that the funding from the State, Self Help Funds, which were to be a critical part of the bid for the purchase of this land, was not approved. Audubon has forged ahead however, and has been successful in garnering support...so hopefully we can still move forward with the purchase...The Nature Conservancy, who apparently owns a large portion of the marshland in the area will be called on to see if there might be funds available there/
5. Sandy Meadow Project. Mr Gurney spoke with Mr. Andres/ An engineer has been hired to make specs for a better and more accurate bid process for the ADA walkway. The DPW is going to construct the parking area. This project also has received CPA funds, so it too will be monitored by Mr. Wade
6. Looking Forward...the next OSRP will be requiring more ADA access, as well as public access,
7. Letter to Support Dick Hilmer's regular presence at meetings...Mr Wade proposed that we craft a letter to the BOS to request that we have the pleasure of Mr Hilmer's company on a consistent basis...his enthusiasm and expertise, not to mention countless many hours of home time he has dedicated to the project he just finished
8. Old Business. A question was asked about the status of the basketball court which is on town owned land at sandy meadow, and if anyone knew of the present status
9. Meeting Adjourned at 8:37+/- Respectfully Submitted, Karen Baker

