

Conservation Committee Minutes
November 14, 2017

Present: Jim Tasse, Marti Blair, Mark Fleming, Jeremy Gabrielson, Zach Matzkin, Mitch Wacksman

Maureen O'Meara (staff)

Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. Public Comment. No members of the public were present.
2. Minutes. The minutes of the October 10, 2017 meeting were approved 6-0.
3. Greenbelt Plan priority list review. The committee reviewed the status chart on greenbelt projects underway. There was general satisfaction with the projects completed and a discussion of what projects should be completed with this year's budget. The committee noted the good work completed by eagle scout candidates, and decided that future eagle scout projects should include some fund-raising by the scout. The committee agreed to fund future eagle scout projects at 50%.

The committee agreed to add the following to the priority list:

- Check on the status of the Coast Guard property
- Check with CELT on land preservation projects
- Look at casual Broad Cove connector trails at Heritage Court
- #5 on the Greenbelt plan, Loveitt Woods to Shore Rd connector
- Canterbury to Route 77/Hobstone
- #10 Connection to Town Center

The committee will organize projects in three categories: Short Term (2018), Medium Term (2019-2020) and Long term (beyond 2020).

4. Greenbelt implementation. Mr. Tasse reported that he met with Eagle Scout candidate Tim Gilda on site at Cross Hill. Tim appears knowledgeable of the work needed. Mr. Tasse will get back to him with a sketch of how the boardwalk should be built. Staff was asked to begin the Resource Protection Permit process.
5. Signs. The committee decided to purchase metal 8 1/2 x 11" signs that prohibit trail alterations without Conservation Committee approval.

6. Canterbury. The committee reviewed the trails installed in Canterbury this season, recognized work by Jim Tasse, and agreed to let the trails settle in for the year. They will revisit the trail layouts next spring.
7. Seaview Beach steps. The committee discussed options for the steps. They agreed to further pursue the option provided by Great Northern Docks (GND). Staff will schedule an onsite meeting with GND at the steps. The committee also agreed to hold a public meeting with the neighborhood to get feedback on the step option at the beginning of their meeting on January 9, 2018. Staff will mail notices to the neighborhood for the meeting.
8. Leaf blowing. Mr. Tasse noted that some trails have already been cleared of leaves. There are also downsides to leaf blowing if it exacerbates the freeze, thaw and erosion cycle. The committee will have a policy discussion at a later date.
9. Bailyn Morris RP Permit. The committee reviewed the plans submitted to the Planning Board. There was discussion about the use of fines in after the fact permits. The committee voted 5-0 to recommend to the Planning Board that the application was not complete because there was no information or timeline for wetland restoration.
10. The next meeting of the committee will be held on December 12, 2017. The committee agreed to hear an update on the comprehensive plan process.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.