

Land Management & Acquisition Committee Minutes

9 May 2017

Present: Ed Braley, Dave Gagnon, Bob Shafto, Ted Asherman, Jenny Grimm, Nathan Poore, Lucky D'Ascanio, Caleb Hemphill, Fred Masciangelo, Audrey Farber, Karen Jacobson, Michael Vance.

Item #1: Trail Map

After some discussion about how many copies of the trail map we should order, it was agreed that the quantity should be 3,500.

Item #2: Riverview Subdivision Set Aside Property

A new subdivision being developed on the Brook Rd border with Westbrook will preserve ± 25 acres of conservation land in both Falmouth and Westbrook, including protection for a portion of Meader Brook and Presumpscot River frontage. The developer has offered fee ownership of the property to the town. The Committee unanimously agreed to recommend that the town accept it. Bob will notify the developer of that decision, and that it is only a recommendation subject to Council approval.

Item #3: "Jewel" Properties

Considerable time was spent discussing the concept of "jewel" properties as defined in the 2006 *The Greening of Falmouth* open space plan. Bob showed photos of various properties that the Open Space Implementation Subcommittee identified as "jewels" in 2007. No concerted effort has been made to acquire easements or ownership of these properties, although some have been protected through various acquisitions of the past ten years. Others have been lost to development. No action was taken as a result of this discussion, but the topic will be carried over to the next meeting. In the meantime, members are left to think about this issue and what the next steps might be if protection of these view shed properties is to be pursued. They are also asked to think about any other properties that might be considered "jewels," and what other name might best describe them as a group.

Item #4: Updates

- The proposed pet ordinances were adopted unanimously by the Council at their May 8th meeting. Signage will go up soon regarding these ordinance requirements.
- 41-acres were added to Suckfish Brook Conservation Area, and 5-acres to Community Park as a result of recent acquisitions.
- The Council will be taking up the difficult issue of paper streets and public access in the coming year, and perhaps the Connector issue as well.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Next meeting date: June 13th