



LMAC (Land Management and Acquisitions Committee)

Members Present: John Adelman, Chair; David Gagnon; and Chris Kittredge
Members Absent: Casey Webster and Fred Farber
Ex-officio Present: Jennifer Grimm, FLT Executive Director
Liaisons Present: Karen Jacobsen, Conservation Commission
Council Liaison Present: Caleb Hemphill, Town Council
Council Guest Present: Ted Asherman
Staff Present: Amanda Stearns, Open Space Manager

Approved Meeting Notes Tuesday, December 10, 2019

1. **Call to Order-** John called the meeting to order at approximately 8:30 am.
2. **Approval of Minutes** – The minutes for November 12, 2019 were unanimously approved as written with a motion by Chris and a second by Dave.
3. **Executive Session** – With a motion by John and a second by Chris, the committee voted unanimously to enter into executive session under MRS Title 1 §405 6.C. No decisions were made.
4. **Work Plan and Budget – 2nd half FY20 and FY21** – Amanda introduced this item, stating that she had met earlier in the month with Nathan Poore, Town Manager and Lucky D’Ascanio to discuss the status of the open space program. Nathan requested at that time for a work plan and budget to be submitted through FY21. Her request is that LMAC review and ultimately endorse the plan with or without modifications.

Elements of the plan include the completion of work plan targeted by LMAC and presented and approved by the Council. These include the development of a comprehensive trail management plan (underway), the improvement and expansion of data resources through GIS, beginning work to update the multiple property management plans and the development of rating guides for property acquisition. A fifth item added by staff is the review and consolidation of the forestry management plans currently in place.

The discussion with Nathan and Lucky included the acknowledgement that this plan is extremely ambitious and cannot be completed in the timeframe scheduled without additional staff. The proposal calls for the creation of a temporary part time position for the remainder of FY20 to be paid out of the current trails and open space maintenance account. The proposal also includes the hiring of Paul Larrivee, 207 Forestry Consulting Services, LLC as the town’s forestry consultant. The town was receiving Paul’s services through Sappi Paper but Paul left Sappi and his skill set and knowledge of the town’s forestry needs is necessary.

In capital (physical projects), staff are recommending the road crossings called out in the Bike Ped Plan be budgeted for the remainder of FY20. These include a permanent crossing of Winn Road, temporary crossing at Blackstrap and some pavement markings on Falmouth Road. The FY21 plan calls for the continuation of GIS improvements, a new position to supplement the current part time staff, review and adoption of the trail management plan, continued work on the property management plans and the generation of forestry plans for those areas that currently should have a plan but do not. Capital includes the engineering and permitting for the Bike Ped Plan project for the installation of a sidewalk on Falmouth Road between the intersection with Twin Pond Road and the trailhead to Smith Preserve and River Point Conservation Area. It was the consensus of the committee to recommend the plan as written to the manager and Council with the addition of assuring to maintain adequate funds for trail maintenance through the remainder of FY20.

5. **Staff Report** – Amanda reported out on a number of matters including progress made on street addressing for all trailheads, monitoring for the Suckfish II grant, and progress on electric bike ordinance.
6. **Other business** – Jenny approached the committee to request a meeting to present the current MNRCF grant project the Trust is working on. This is for the Hincks property on the east side of Route One and abutting the Town of Cumberland. The Trust is referring to this property as Underwood Springs Forest and will be requesting funds from the Town. The committee tentatively scheduled the discussion for January contingent on a formal proposal submitted.
7. **Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:40 am.

Next Meeting – January 14 – 8:30 am.