

Open Space Committee, April 25, 2024

Virtual Meeting

Members Present: Susan Girard-Irwin, Thomas Bow, Nick Norman, Shari Stahl, Janice Parky

Also Present: Barbara Carboni

Ms. Girard-Irwin called the meeting to order at 2:01.

Minutes of the March 28, 2024, meeting were approved.

Open Space and Recreation Plan Status Update: Mr. Norman reported that he is almost finished with his edits. He questioned whether there was anything happening at the Highland Center. It was determined that there was not. Section will be deleted. Ms. Carboni will confer with Darrin Tangeman, Town Manager regarding hiring a consultant to do the final draft. Mr. Bow inquired if there was a target completion date. Ms. Carboni stated that any funding available to hire a consultant would be available after May 15, 2024, and would need to be used by June 30, 2024 which dictates the window of time for completion.

Update from Truro Conservation Trust: Mr. Bow informed the Committee that the purchase of the Chapel on the Pond is at a standstill. An offer has been made; sellers are currently traveling and want to wait until they return in 2 months to respond/negotiate. The purchase will be funded entirely by donations, no TCT funds will be used. TCT is currently working on other acquisitions and will hopefully be revealed by the next OS meeting. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony on May 14, 2024 at 2pm on site to celebrate the High Head Trail.

CPC Update: Ms. Stahl will be taking over as the liaison to the CPC, with Ms. Girard-Irwin's resignation from the OS Committee.

New Business: Mr. Norman brought up the question as to whether the OS Committee can become an "ad hoc" committee with the resignation of Ms. Girard-Irwin and Mr. Norman and Ms. Parky's pending resignations. Mr. Norman said he was leaning towards it. Mr. Bow questioned if it was legal in the eyes of the state and would the "committee" still be eligible for grant funding. Mr. Norman stated that there is not a lot of opportunity for land to be purchased by OS; the TCT is more able to acquire properties. Ms. Girard-Irwin stated that it is not the Committee's decision to make and she will confer with Susan Areson, BOS liaison, for clarification.

Next Meeting: Thursday, May 30, 2024 at 2pm

Meeting adjourned at 2:35

Respectfully Submitted, Janice Parky

