MINUTES from the Milton CC Casey Road Land Protection Committee Meeting

Wednesday, August 21, 2019

Present: Karen Golab, Wayne Sylvester, Virginia Long, Deb McCormack, and Bob Weiss (Cynthia Wyatt arrived at 5:35 pm)

5:33 pm Karen called meeting to order

1. Review of easement progress (Change order of agenda items):

a. Virginia reported that Dan is working on it

2. Minutes approval:

- a. Cynthia moved to approve March 20, 2019 minutes, Wayne 2nded, all approved
- b. Wayne moved to approve July 24, 2019 minutes, Cynthia 2nded, all in favor

3. Review Karen's presentation to BOS on Monday, 8/19:

- a. Karen reported that the BOS had no issues with the wording of the welcome sign and the list of restricted uses, until Chief Krauss questioned the bicycling restriction. Karen assured him that it is up to the BOS and can be changed. BOS member Erin suggested allowing bicycling on the trails unless it becomes a problem. Virginia agreed to revise the sign accordingly. Karen said all BOS members voted in favor of restricting hunting and did not pick up on the suggestion of getting public input on the matter. There was discussion about how to make a permanent sign. Boy Scout Matt Stier will construct a kiosk for the trailhead as an Eagle Scout project. It was decided that the kiosk have room for a trail map as well as for the text sign listing restrictions next to it, under plexi-glass, which will all be installed later. We'll ask John McAllister to make a wooden welcome sign with the property name to be installed at the edge of the road, to identify the property. Cynthia will see if there are Aluminum logo signs for MMRG and Milton to add to the sign.
- b. Karen also reported that the BOS was fine (but no formal vote) with the CRLPC proposal for a bus turnaround, as Pat Smith has agreed to implement when he is between projects.

4. Update on research completed by Jon Nute:

a. Virginia reported that Jon Nute found an additional right of way by an abutter on Casey Rd. More interestingly, he found an abutting 3-acre parcel owned by the Town of Milton, on Rte 75 (tax map/lot 41/81), which has a right of way across it owned by abutting house lot. Discussion ensued about if we should attempt to add the 3-acre parcel to the conservation land. Cynthia was in favor and pointed out it would get us over the 80 acre mark. Virginia will look into if it would require another warrant article to get it conserved (or if it could be accomplished by the BOS).

5. Review of bus turnaround area:

a. Virginia reported on her meeting with Tom Eldridge (Nute School bus coordinator) ad Pat Smith (Director of Public Works) at Casey Rd. She offered the CRLPC to organize a Volunteer workday for volunteers to cut small trees in advance of Pat's excavation work. At Pat's direction, V flagged trees to outline the bus turnaround area and whenre trees need to be cut.

6. Review of Eagle Scout project:

a. Wayne reported that Matt Stier's project was accepted by the Troop, but not yet by the District. The project will consist of funding and building a kiosk, re-blazing the trail, adding one or more foot bridges across tributaries, and extending the trail to the beaver dam. Wayne asked for size specs on the kiosk and Cynthia said she will ask SRPC for the standard size of maps produced by SRPC; the kiosk should be approx twice that to allow for text signs next to map. We will ask SRPC to GPS the trail and create a color coded map.

7. Discuss Liberty Circle permission letters for trail extension across conserved Open Space:

a. Virginia reminded Wayne that we need permission to extend the trail onto the 11-acre Open Space since it is only partially owned by the Town. Atty Mitchell said there's an existing Homeowner's Assoc bylaws in the registry of deeds, so we will go by those guidelines, which say we can obtain individual permissions from a majority of landowners. Although permission in writing or oral was not specified, we agreed to ask by letter with a mail-in return slip and envelope. Virginia will ask Ashley to send out letters. Karen has addresses of the 6 Liberty Circle landowners. We don't know if the Town's 5/11 interest will count as 5 votes or as one vote and Virginia will try to ascertain that from Atty Mitchell. Virginia brought a drafted letter, which the committee approved but which needs a line for multiple landowners to sign and date, if multiple owners are on the deed.

8. Other business:

a. Virginia asked the Committee to set a date for the volunteer work day to cut small trees in order to create the bus turnaround area. There was discussion about safety issues and use of chain saws. The date was set for Saturday, October 5, 9-11 am approximately. Since the PR needs to be submitted before our next committee meeting, the Committee trusts Virginia to write a newspaper press release to appeal for volunteers to help. She will send it to individual committee members for review and incorporate their comments.

9. Public Comment: none

10. Next meeting date is Wednesday, September 25 at 5:30 pm

7:00 pm Cynthia moved to adjourn, Wayne seconded, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Virginia