

Notes from the **Milton CC Casey Road Land Protection Sub-committee Meeting**

Wednesday, March 21, 2018 at 5:30 pm at the Emma Ramsey Center

Present: Karen Golab, Wayne Sylvester, Virginia Long, and Cynthia Wyatt

5:33 pm Karen called meeting to order

1) Minutes approval:

Minutes of 2/14/2018 meeting: Wayne moved to approve, Cynthia 2nded, all approved

- 2) **Town vote on warrant articles placed on ballot by MCC:** Karen reviewed the good results; both passed; article#17 to conserve the 5.5-acre defunct subdivision was particularly favorable (Yes- 521; No- 168)
- 3) **Next Steps with MMRG:** Cynthia reminded us that before pursuing the easement with MMRG, we need to merge the two designated conservation properties, the 5.5 acres and the 73 acres. Cynthia will contact town planner Bruce Woodruff to ask what the correct procedure is and the committee agreed that we will follow his advice. Anticipating that the first step may be to ask the BOS to recommend the merge, we will try to have representatives of the Sub-Committee at the BOS meeting on April 9. (Cynthia cannot attend but Wayne, Virginia and Karen plan to attend.) Karen will contact Dana to get the topic on the BOS agenda for that date. At that meeting, we will also invite the BOS to provide a representative to the MCC and the Casey Rd sub-committee. Karen will ask Dana about the status of Justin's letter applying to get on the MCC and Cynthia will then contact Justin to see if he is still interested.
- 4) **Press release about the warrant article:** Karen said 'kudos' - it got into the front page of the electronic version and the third page of the print version! Karen said she will send a copy or link to Cynthia, who requested it.
- 5) **Liberty Circle Open Space abutting parcel:**
 - a. Virginia reported that she looked up the Liberty Circle parcel tax cards online to try to determine if the assessment of those properties includes an extra tax for the 'amenity' of having the 1/12th interest in the 11.24 acre open space. She found that Liberty Circle landowners pay an extra 10% neighborhood adjustment on their land compared to Heron Circle or Winding Rd landowners and speculated that perhaps that is for the 1/12th interest. If not, there is no other indication on the tax card of paying tax for that 1/12th interest. Karen said she will inquire of Kathy Wallingford about it.
 - b. Cynthia drafted a letter to Liberty Circle landowners that Virginia edited slightly and read to the rest of the committee. Karen suggested adding a sentence at the end to ask that landowners let us know if they wish to pursue transferring their 1/12th interest to the town. All agreed that Cynthia did well in sticking to the main points of landowner responsibility for defending the easement and financial responsibility for monitoring; there is no need to complicate things with mention of liability or taxes. Virginia will send the newest version to Cynthia who will forward to Dana for the whole MCC to review, after making make use of their comments, send to Heather and the BOS before sending out to landowners. Cynthia will sign it.

6) Trails and Parking:

- a. Wayne reported that he knows of potential upcoming Eagle Scout projects that might be able to work on new trails after they are flagged by Charlie Ek: Wayne proposed that scouts could cut trees, clear trails, remove debris, blaze trails, and out up a kiosk. Wayne volunteered to walk with Charlie Ek to scout routes for the new trails. Virginia will provide contact Charlie's contact info to Wayne.
- b. The committee looked at the current map and came up with 3 trails additions:
 - i. extension of trail along the Brook to the beaver dam/pond
 - ii. possible loop back from Lyman Brook to the trailhead (making use of an existing old road??)
 - iii. possible loop connecting the dead end trail (that goes to a nice upland knoll) and the trail down to Lyman Brook
- c. Virginia reported that she contacted **Jackie Finneron**, the leader of a scout troop in Wolfeboro, (previously worked with MMRG's WidowMaker Farm project landowners) who said that they may need more Eagle Scout projects by next fall. All agreed that we seem to have plenty of potential help on the trail project.
- d. Virginia reported that she contacted George Szirbik to ask for donation of gravel for the parking /turnaround area. George said that Jones Brook LLP and Eastern Materials will provide the materials BUT that someone else (the town?) needs to supply the truck for delivery. Also, first, the topsoil will need to be removed. And someone else needs to spread the gravel. Virginia promised them public acknowledgement for their donation, such as their names on the kiosk. The committee still hopes that Andy Rawson will be willing to help out and **Karen** will contact Andy. Virginia suggested that we also ask the school for possible volunteers who could help on the parking area.

7) Remaining agenda items are tabled to next time:

- a. Restrictions list
- b. School involvement
- c. Letter to abutting property owner

Next meeting: 5:30 pm on Wednesday, April 18

The meeting ended (without a motion) at approximately 6:40 pm

Respectfully submitted by Virginia