

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

Monday, December 11, 2017 at 5:00 pm at the Emma Ramsey Center (before the MCC meeting at 6 pm)

Present: Karen Golab, Wayne Sylvester, and Virginia Long (Cynthia Wyatt arrived at 5:25 pm)

Guests: John McCallister

5:10 pm start meeting

Minutes approval:

Minutes of 11/2/2017 meeting: Wayne moved to approve , Virginia 2nded, all approved

Thank yous for donation and help with Trail Party at Casey Road parcel:

Karen wrote Thank You letter to Dunkin Donuts for their donation: Virginia moved to approve it, Wayne 2nded, all approved

Karen publicly thanked McKenzie's Farm, Branch Hill Farm, Kari Lygren, Charlie Ek, and Milton Fire and Rescue for their valuable contributions of items or service to the event

Update on Merge Application:

Karen reported that the voluntary merge request that the 5-acre defunct development be merged into a single parcel was approved by the Milton BOS on 11/30. The Planning Board accepted the BOS request on 12/5. The next step is for the Planning Board to do the deed work. A public hearing is NOT required. Following step is for there to be a warrant article asking town residents to approve that it be retained for public use and placed under conservation easement. (Postpone committee vote recommending this until Cynthia arrives)

Update on Liberty Circle 11-acre conservation parcel:

We discussed how to proceed with the town owned conservation land in which Liberty Circle landowners own interest (1/12 each). Karen said landowners need to be made aware of liability. Virginia reported that she and Cynthia met with the MMRG Stewardship and Lands Committee on December and that MMRG now says that this easement does not need to be part of the project for MMRG to accept the project. In fact, it might be negatively viewed by the organization, even if the landowners transfer their interests to the Town, because of the additional # of abutters to deal with. Cynthia (ARRIVED) noted that, according to the easement, landowners are responsible for paying towards the cost of monitoring. Virginia estimated this would be about \$40 per year per landowner.

Vote on Warrant Article: for 5-acre parcel to be retained for public use and placed under conservation easement: Cynthia will ask Dana to review current wording for any corrections. Virginia moved to approve it with any such corrections; Wayne 2nded, all approved.

More Discussion of next steps on Liberty Circle 11-acre conservation parcel:

Cynthia suggested we proceed with plan to contact landowners. Karen said let's send an introductory letter, then ask to meet if agreeable, then pursue getting deeds re-done. In such a case, the previous letter needs to be revised to include mention of landowner liability if retaining interest and landowner's responsibility to pay towards signs and monitoring costs, and that transferring interest to the town is in the town best interest. Virginia disagreed that it would benefit the town and suggested that the full CC decide and that it be low priority for action. Karen said the discussion can be continued in the full CC.

Trail Party:

Karen reported that the Trail party on December 2 was a great success with good turnout and all agreed. Cynthia suggested we ask Charlie Ek for help making a better map to make available to the public. John McCallister said we need to give directions to the property. Virginia raised the concerns about parking and cars turning around in people's driveways. We also discussed the issue of if hunting should be allowed. Suggestions were made for bow hunting only. Virginia reported one couple who said they would vote for the easement only if it did NOT restrict hunting (it won't, but the town could). We also discussed a policy about bicycling, which the town will have to decide.

6 pm adjourned

Next meeting on Thursday, January 25 at 5:30 pm(??)

Minutes Respectfully submitted by Virginia