Open Space & Recreation  
Meeting Minutes of January 14, 2020 

6:37 Call to order.

Members present: Richard Karoff, Tom Callahan, Maryanne Wetherald, Deirdre Riley, Peter Pescatore

I informed the committee that Dustyn Moscia had tendered her resignation from the OSRC due to work and family issues. Dustyn was a Bylaw Sub-Committee member and she will be missed as an engaged contributor.

The committee now has 7 of our 9 authorized members participating. Please send me any recommendations for membership that you have.

Motion to approve the meeting minutes of December 10, 2019 made by Richard, 2nd by Maryanne, vote to approve was 3-0-2.

Discussion of the presentation process for February 11th regarding the new Shade Tree Policy proposal. Subsequent to the meeting it was agreed with the Town Manager that they would sponsor the policy to the BoS and if approved complete and submit the application to become a Tree City USA town. I will be in attendance and will be sure to get a commitment from the BoS to deliver a Town Wide Proclamation to Observe Arbor Day on April 24th. Also in the meeting with the Town Manager he confirmed that the amendment requested to be made to the Scenic Roads Bylaw will be put before the appropriate boards and be included in the ATM Warrant.

The chair requested a volunteer to be liaison to the Master Plan Implementation Committee from the OSRC and Tom Callahan volunteered. Since I attended the BoS immediately after our meeting Tom was presented for appointment and unanimously appointed to that committee. The first meeting will be 1/21/20 at 7PM.

I reported on Tim Davis’s recent summary of the Harbor Plan that included a review of all the projects involved in the plan.
Tom reported that the trails project team had identified the vendor that makes the Trustees of Reservations signs and will work to develop an estimate that we can present to the town for funding.

As lead for the Bylaw Sub-Committee Tom proposed a Land Management Bylaw for ATM consideration that consists of one section that amends Chapter 300 of the Zoning Bylaws to add a column to the Table of Area Regulations, titled Lot Clearance, to propose a specific % of allowable lot clearance for each Bylaw District before development is approved. This will require a 2/3rds vote at ATM.

The second section that proposes to limit the allowable alteration of a lots topography with regard to ledge, elevation and habitat among other specific regulations will be an addition to Part II of the general Bylaws, adding a new Section 224, Land Development, that will require a majority vote at ATM.

After an extended discussion Deirdre moved to recommend the proposed new Bylaw change be sent forward to be included in the ATM Warrant. Richard 2nd the motion.

There was no further discussion and the motion was approve 5-0. Tom will send the approved text to the Town Manager for inclusion in the ATM Warrant.

A motion to adjourn was made by Richard at 7:40PM, Tom 2nd and the motion was approved 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Pescatore
January 21, 2020