

## LAND USE COMMITTEE

### Meeting Minutes

February 14, 2023 7:00 PM

**Members Present:** Anne Mazar, Barry Iadarola, Peter Coffin, Alejna Brugos, Frank Niro and Carolyn Barthel. Guests: Laura Bachrach

The meeting opened at 7:00 PM and all present introduced themselves.

Barry/Frank motion to accept the minutes of the prior meeting as presented was so voted unanimously.

Five Year Land Use Plan: Anne reported that there have been no changes to the Five-Year Land Use Plan.

Hike Challenge: Anne updated the Committee on the “Hike Challenge” progress. Anne asked if there were any comments on the Hike Route Maps that were sent to members prior to the meeting. After discussion it was agreed that the routes appear reasonable for the challenge. Anne presented the patch and signage that would be used along the trails. There being no objections, the designs were so approved. Anne explained the expected costs of the patches and signage. The patches cost approximately \$185 for 100 patches, and \$295 for 288 signs. **After discussion the Peter/Carolyn motion to authorize the expenditure of \$300 for the patches and \$300 for the signage was so voted unanimously.**

Annual Town Meeting: Anne reminded the Committee that warrants are due soon for the Mendon Annual Town Meeting and asked if any members have any proposed warrants. Anne reported that the Five-Year Land Use Plan is to be renewed and to change the use of the 3.5-acre portion of the town-owned 8 Morrison Drive abutting the Applewood Open Space to conservation land.

Open Space and Recreation Plan: CMRPC will be helping Anne and Dan Byer complete the plan.

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations: Anne reported that the EV charging stations at Town Hall should be accessible soon. Discussion included the availability of the stations and the recommendation that users be charged a fee to offset the costs of maintaining the stations.

Green Municipal Aggregation: Anne reported that there has been no progress with the Department of Public Utilities to approve Mendon’s electric aggregation plan for Mendon residents. Mendon is working with Colonial Power Group to incorporate more Class 1 renewable energy and at a better price than National Grid is offering. Anne reported that Carolyn and she have drafted a proposed letter for the Mendon Select Board to be sent to the DPU and a number of other MA departments. **The Peter/Carolyn motion to approve the submission of the letter to the Select Board for consideration was so voted unanimously.**

Founders Park: Anne reported that the evergreen and sycamore trees at Founders Park are exhibiting issues that will require treatment. The Tree Warden will pay for the \$2000 analysis of the sycamore trees and the Founders' Park account would cover the treatments for wooly adelgid and needlecast. After discussion the **Peter/Carolyn motion to approve the expenditure of \$855 for treatment was so voted unanimously.**

Baystate Trail Association: Anne reported that the Baystate Trail Riders Association inquired about the possibility of constructing trails around the Inman Hill Road fields. A member of the BSTRA association and the Land Use Committee will walk the proposed location of the trails in March.

Executive Session: At 7:43 pm the committee took a roll call vote to go into Executive Session to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body.

**Barry made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 PM, Peter seconded the motion and it was so voted unanimously.**

Next meeting is on March 14, 2023 at 7 PM.

Submitted by Frank Niro