

Minutes of the Open Space Committee for February 13, 2015

The Open Space Committee met at 10:30 in the Judge Welsh Meeting Room.

Members present: Dave Hale, Suzanne Harding, April Baxter, and Dennis Minsky (recording)

Also present: Peter Brown (Provincetown Banner) and David Gardner, Acting Town Manager

There was a discussion of two earlier meetings that pertained to the future of the Coastal Acres Campground. On February 3 a meeting took place that included James Veara, representing the campground, and Jennifer Dubois, representing The Trustees of the Reservations, which has a potential interest in the campground, and a number of other interested parties, including Open Space members, and town officials. This meeting was general in nature, with no specifics in purchase price and no real time line for action. On February 11 there was a meeting of interested parties, including Open Space members, and Town Planner Gloria McPherson, to discuss possibilities for housing in conjunction with preserving the campground operation at Coastal Acres Campground; this meeting, too, was general in nature, more of a "brainstorming session".

Minsky moved, and Hale seconded, that if proceedings of a campground purchase begin to take shape, that the committee make every effort to inform voters of the details (and importance) of this progress, including the use of a direct mailing applied to the voters' list.

The motion carried, 4-0-0.

There was a discussion of strategy options for the upcoming (Feb. 23) BOS hearing concerning "folding in" the Land Bank funds into the Community Preservation Act funds. Hale presented some of the financial facts pertinent to this issue, such as the approximate \$1.3 million current balance in Land Bank funds would grow to approximately \$3.4 million by 2020. Also, the 6% property tax burden would be extended (until 2023) under any "folding in" action.

It was agreed that Minsky would prepare a letter to be presented to the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee. It was agreed that Suzanne Harding would prepare flyers to alert townspeople about the hearing. It was agreed that April Baxter would publicize the event on WOMR radio.

Hale moved, and Harding seconded, to approve the minutes of December 8, 2014 as read.

The motion carried, 4-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55.

Submitted by Dennis Minsky, chair