

Town Lands Committee
Minutes
March 8, 2016

Present: Jane Smith, Co-Chair, Ken Oehmig, Co-Chair, David Hackett, Hope Hilton, Ned Perry, Jean Richter, and Ellen Shillinglaw

Absent: John Loyd

The Committee met at 6:00 PM at the Town Offices.

1. Approve Minutes
The minutes of the Town Lands Committee meeting on February 9, 2016 were approved.

2. Old Business
 - a. Graveyard abutter
The Committee noted the Board of Selectmen had decided to retain a small lot abutting the Graveyard Point Landing. After a discussion of the current situation, the Committee agreed to do a site visit to review the small lot at 5:30 PM before its April meeting.

 - b. Landings & Abutters
The Committee continued its discussion of a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen that the Town communicate with owners of certain lands that abut Town Lands.

 - c. Proposed lease at Holbrook Landing
The Committee discussed the recent withdrawal of a proposal to lease a portion of the Holbrook Street Town Landing. The Committee agreed to try to review the landing and its long term needs for parking.

3. Little Mark Island
The Committee reviewed a letter dated February 4, 2016 from the U.S. Coast Guard to the Town of Harpswell seeking comments on the proposed nominations of the Little Mark Island Monument for official inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. The Committee encouraged the Board of Selectmen to support the proposed action of the U.S. Coast Guard.

4. Town Meeting Items
The Committee reviewed Article 31 in the 2016 Town Warrant concerning the expenditure of up to \$25,000 to implement a parking plan, replacing a float and improving the boat launch at Pott's Point. The Chair of the Committee and other Committee members will be prepared to speak in support of the article at Town Meeting, if requested.

5. Town Landing Task Force

The Committee reviewed a draft proposal for the Board of Selectmen to consider relating to the establishment of a task force to study and review the issue of water access throughout Harpswell. A draft proposal will be forwarded to the Committee's liaison on the Board of Selectmen.

6. Stewardship reports (time permitting)
 - a. Tide Mill
 - b. Lookout Point

Due to the late hour, the Committee agreed to re-schedule these reports for the next meeting.

7. Items remaining from last year

The Committee discussed several items about which the discussion had not been completed in 2015, including encouraging the Town to have a large map of the Town at Town Meeting, the availability of students in surveying courses in local universities to Survey one or more of our town landings every year, revising the Steward Report format to include monitoring visits at both high and low tides, and how funds in a Landing Improvement Fund may be spent.

8. Steward for Yorks Landing and Giant's Stairs

Committee members were asked to speak with residents who might like to serve on the Town Lands Committee and encourage them to communicate their interest to the Board of Selectmen.

9. Steward Reports to Review next meeting

See item 6 above.

10. Other

The Committee discussed whether the new owners of Cook's Lobster & Ale House might be interested in identifying two parking spaces near the Garrison Cove Landing for fishermen parking with a notation that fishermen should not be parking in the rest of the Cook's parking lot during the dinner hour.

The Committee also discussed a suggestion that we try to educate the public more about our Town lands and landings through articles in the local press.

11. Next regular meeting: Tuesday, April 5 at 6:00 PM at the Town Offices. There will be a site visit to Graveyard Point at 5:30 PM before the regular meeting.

On motion made, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Submitted by,

Ned Perry