

Town Lands Committee
Minutes
September 1, 2015
Approved October 13, 2015

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

Absent: David Hackett, John Loyd, and Bob Waddle

Also present: Jane Jukes – Town Lands Steward for Mackerel Cove, and her guests Mike and Nan Roylos

The Committee met at 7:00 PM at the Town Offices after conducting a site visit at the Town lot in Indian Rest.

- Other Business
The Committee agreed to listen to a presentation from its guests out of order. Jane Jukes mentioned she had discussed with Terri Sawyer having her friends make a presentation to the Committee about a cigarette butt collector known as the Sidewalk Buttler. Mike Roylos presented the model of the Sidewalk Buttler he had with him and described how it was working in Portland and could work in Harpswell. Hope Hilton pointed out the public procurement process the Town of Harpswell would need to go through to purchase the devices. Ken agreed to discuss the presentation with Terri Sawyer.

- Review Site Visit to Indian Rest
The Committee next took item number 3 on the agenda out of order and discussed its site visit at the Town lot in Indian Rest (Tax Map 50, lot 134). Ellen mentioned that Marguerite Kelly, the Town Treasurer, has “look at the title of lot 134” on her to do list. Hope summarized some of the many issues that could be involved with the title for the lot and the structure of the Indian Rest entities. She also suggested that the Committee recommend that the Town develop a procedure for divesting town land no longer needed or wanted by the Town of Harpswell for this lot and for future town land that the Town determines to be excess land and no longer wants to own.

- 1. Approve Minutes
The Committee then returned to the order of the circulated agenda. The minutes of the Town Lands Committee meeting on July 14, 2015 were approved with a spelling correction in Item 4.a. on page two.

- 2. Old Business
 - a. Invasive Species Update
There was nothing new to report
 - b. Any updates on Ownership of Bar and Jenny Islands
Hope is still researching issues on the State level.
 - c. Giant’s Stairs sign about terrain
Ellen has sent Ken a proposed design with two black diamonds and a warning of difficult terrain ahead. Ned reported the landscaping company still had not cut the weeds and grass at the end of the trail.

- d. Hildreth Parking
Ken reported he thought he had seen reference to the project having gone out for bid.
 - e. Dog bags at Mackerel Cove & update
There is a new disposal bag dispenser at the Devils Back Trail Head parking lot. The committee discussed recommending additional dispensers; however, it did not reach a conclusion on any specific locations. Ned reported it appeared the number of old lobster traps being left on the Mackerel Cove Beach had increased since our clean up. There was discussion of how to keep the old pots from being discarded and ending up on Town beaches. At the end of the discussion, Ellen moved and the Committee
VOTED that the Town Land Committee recommend to the Board of Selectmen that the Harpswell Recycling and Transfer Center allow Harpswell lobstermen to dispose of their old lobster pots without charge.
 - f. Devil's Back East Trail
Ned had seen Don Miskill the previous week and reported that Don had said he hopes to start with the flagging of the proposed trail on the East side of the road this fall.
 - g. Pott's Point parking
Ken was not aware of any new developments
3. Review Site Visit to Indian Rest
(See discussion above.)
4. Steward Report – Graveyard Point
- a. Graveyard Point
Ken said he had visited Graveyard Point but he had not prepared the report. There was discussion about the need for a “cemetery” sign along the road indicating where the path is to the cemetery. Ken will follow up with Terri.
5. Parking at Graveyard Point Landing
During his site visit, Ken thought the parking spaces were sufficiently identified and none of the neighbors appeared to be encroaching on the town parking spaces.
6. Lookout Point
Committee members who have visited Lookout Point have noticed cars and trucks are parking in the old landing parking lot and not utilizing the recently expanded parking area. The Committee recommends that new wooden posts be installed at the northeast and northwest corners of the parking area with “Park Between signs” routed or painted on the post with an arrow pointing to the opposite post.
7. Wood Landing
The Committee discussed the Wood Landing and the 25-year lease involving that landing. It was decided to include a site visit to Wood Landing along with Lookout Point prior to the next meeting on October 13.

8. **Work Day at Bethel Point?**
Ned had suggested a work day at Bethel Point this fall to work on removing the bitter sweet that is taking over both sides of the landing; however, it is not clear what removal methods the Invasive Species Partnership has developed for coastal areas so no work day was scheduled. The Committee also hopes the Recycling Committee will provide an area for invasive plant cuttings may be left for burning or some other form of destruction rather than mixing the invasive cuttings with all the rest of the brush.

9. **Attend Mitchell Field Committee?**
The Committee discussed the apparent need to combine the destruction of what remains of the old Navy pier with any warrant article put forth for a new town landing at Mitchell Field. No committee member expressed any ability to attend the Mitchell Field Committee meeting the following evening.

10. **Stewardship Report to review at next meeting**
Ken will try to prepare a written report for Graveyard Point.

11. **Other – No additional items beyond the Sidewalk Buttler (see above on page 1) were raised.**

7. **Next regular meeting: Tuesday, October 13 at 7:00 PM at the Town Office.**
Prior to the meeting, the Committee will conduct a site visit at 6:15 PM at Lookout Point and Wood Landing.

Submitted by

Ned Perry