

Town of Harpswell
Mitchell Field Committee Meeting
June 6, 2022

Attendees: Don Miskill, Lee Cheever, Bob Yanders, Mose Price, Philip Conner, Sharon Oehmig, and Katherine Goodrich.

Also present: Mark Eyerman, Paul Ciesielski, Susan Stemper, and David Chipman.

A quorum was present. The meeting was called to order at 5:02 PM.

Meeting Minutes: The May 16, 2021 minutes were approved as written [7-0-0].

New Business:

- **PFA Testing** – Paul Ciesielski and Select Board recently toured Brunswick Landing Picnic Ponds site to learn more about PFA Testing that the Navy and State are doing with the additional focus on forever chemicals in soil and water.
 - Paul is a member of the Restoration Advisory Board for Brunswick Landing. This board deals with superfund cleanup sites at BL. As a Harpswell resident, he also brings the town concerns to the process.
 - Storm water runoff from Brunswick Landing and the ponds flows into Harpswell Cove and down into Harpswell Sound.
 - They are sampling Merrymeeting Bay. Paul has asked for additional sampling/testing offshore at Mitchell Field, in Harpswell Cove and Harpswell Sound.
 - Paul asked several questions about the landfill at Mitchell Field. It was opened, used, closed and capped by the Navy before the Field reverted to the Town so he will check with them. It could have some PFA waste in it. There is at least one test well abutting the MF landfill which can be used for additional testing.
 - Paul indicated that there had been testing off shore at Mitchell Field and a report written. This was new information for the MFC and he asked for a copy of the report. Paul will provide one.
 - The Community Garden backup well if used should be tested on a regular basis, at least yearly.
 - State is using 20 parts per trillion which is a new lower standard. The Navy is still using 40 PPT. Expect new standard for in-water marine environments.
 - Paul will continue to keep us informed of the Navy's plan for more testing and he will lobby for testing to be done at Mitchell Field and its off shore area.
- **MF Survey Questions Review:**
 - Goal is to get the survey out to everyone in the town, not just the users at the Field.
 - Survey can be done online or on paper. Our goal is to send it out with the town office mailing in July or August. The newsletter or tax bills.
 - We will have an article in the Anchor, TV spot, and on the town web site.
 - Committee members made a number of suggestions which will be taken back to the subcommittee so they can make final changes and an error check.
- **Property Record Plan:**
 - After meeting with Susan about the Community Garden issues, Spike and I think that the Community Garden and associated facilities are recorded for permanent retention. With the newly completed sub-division plan, this would be a good way to establish the record.
 - Not just the garden as it currently exists but as was approved by the Planning Board which is a larger area along with the solar panel well easement, and pipeline.
 - Mark has recommended we capture remaining above and below ground structures at the field.
 - Cost estimate of \$4000 is not in this year's budget.

- **Chair Update** – No questions about the written update.
- **Planner Update** – Mark elaborated on RT’s kelp research plans. No new updates on new lease.
- **Community Garden Update:**
 - Celebration on July 30, rain date of July 31.
 - We have a new Garden Coordinator hire.
- **Steward Update** – No questions about the written update.
- **Picnic Tables** – Tree droppings on the tables. Will need another coat of paint.
- **Work Plan** – Will send out emails.
- **Goals and Action Items Update** – See changes.

The meeting adjourned at 6:04 PM.

Handouts: (All handouts are available electronically)

- MFC Chair memo, *Chairperson Update*, June 6, 2022
- MF Steward memo, *Steward’s Update*, June 1, 2022
- Planner memo, *Planner’s Update*, June 3, 2022
- *Mitchell Field Goals and Action Items List*, May 31, 2022
- Planner memo, *Preparation of a “Record” Map & Plan*, June 3, 2022
- *Mitchell Field Survey Questions (Draft)*, June 4, 2022

Next MF Committee Meeting:

- MFC meeting on Monday, July 11, 2022 at 5:00 PM (4th is a holiday)
- MFC meeting on Monday, August 1st, 2022 at 5:00 PM
- MFC meeting on Monday, September 12, 2022 at 5:00 PM (5th is a holiday)

Respectfully submitted,
Don Miskill, Secretary