Town of Enfield Mascoma Lakeside Park Committee Minutes, August 20, 2019

The committee met at 3:30 at Whitney Hall. Present: Meredith Smith, Doug Smith, Kate McMullan, Ryan Aylesworth, Rob Taylor, Jo-Ellen Courtney, Shirley Green, E. McLaughlin, Julie McLaughlin. Guests: Dave Beaufait, Penny Koburger and Paul Mirski

Approval of the August 13, 2019 and July 17, 2019 meeting minutes: Approved by voice vote.

Financial Report: No Changes from last meeting.

Northern Borders Grant: Ryan spoke with Christine Frost and we have to complete the project by September 2021. We need to have a scope/plans on file with the Northern Borders that we will need to stick with and it should be more general so as to allow for changes within that more general submission. Ryan reviewed the options for constructing the kit-built pavilion. 1) Using Volunteers; 2) town employees that could be reimbursed as per their current wage, 3) Outsourced to a contractor.

A motion (Doug) and seconded (Ed) was made to accept Paul Mirski's pro-bono offer to consult with the committee on the design of the pavilion and park. Approved unanimously.

Landscape Design, Construction and Pavilion: Ed reviewed the results of the public forums as a reminder of what the public has offered as being characteristics of the park, facilities offered and pavilion.

Paul Mirski reviewed his designs and location for the pavilion. The original concept was for a rustic pavilion that would be simple and not the centerpiece of the park. Paul stressed that "simple" can refer to any type of design; rustic, traditional, contemporary, etc. He added that a traditional pavilion design could also be simple. Money was, and is, a factor in this. Ryan felt we should not let this inhibit what we consider. The location of the pavilion is more critical right now than the design. Paul suggested moving the site to a more accessible location for ADA, it would be less likely to be used for unintended purposes, and to minimize or avoid the archeological area. Meredith noted that in her conversation with immediate neighbor Leslie Clancy, Leslie had voiced concerns about a pavilion that would be mostly hidden from view, fearing it would attract unsavory activities. She also favored a more traditional design.

Paul outlined some criteria we should consider to include: sidewalks, curbs, removal of the road through to Main Street, bathrooms, a promenade along shoreline, storage shed and downward facing lighting. He emphasized that the park would be a project to be worked on over many years with multiple phases. Paul also discussed, as a long-range goal, the idea of reducing the grade of the Rail Trail to make the park more ADA accessible, especially for wheel chairs.

The discussion after Paul's presentation included views on maintaining the informal and natural approach to the pavilion, walkways, maintaining the focus on education and access, regrading of the land with considerations of the Lake Smart suggestions.

It also included a discussion on what can be done to the northeast portions of the park to clear the brush. However, before we could do this, trees and native flora would need to be identified and tagged.

Energy Commission: Jo-Ellen reviewed the recommendations from the Energy Commission that suggested including using solar as a source of a power.

Next Meeting: It was suggested that we need to go back to twice monthly meetings for the time being because of the need to finalize plans for the pavilion. It was agreed by all that this should be done and to go back to the1st and 3rd Tuesday's of the month. The Next Meeting will be on September 10, 2019. (**Note: The next meeting date has been subsequently changed to September 3rd. at 3:30 in Whitney Hall**)

Meeting adjourned. 5:11 PM

Comments received on the draft notes:

I do not recall ANY discussion of education. That is one of many potential envisioned uses for the park.

Never has Paul or anyone else suggested that the MLP Committee depart from the stated goal of adhering to a Lake Smart Program. Even Andrea LaMoreaux, who walked the park property last spring, said it would be a long-range goal to create a fully Lake Smart park:

I do not recall ANY discussion of education. That is one of many potential envisioned uses for the park.

Julie McLaughlin