

Nahant Open Space and Recreation Committee Meeting  
June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in Town Hall

Members Present: Trish Aldrich chair, Ellen Antrim, Nancy Cantelmo recorder, Rebecca Pillsbury Durgin

Guest: Antonio Barletta, Town Administrator

Meeting called to order at 3:07 pm

**Minutes** of 5/30/23 meeting discussed, approval motion made by Ellen and seconded by Rebecca. All voted in favor.

**Signage for Lodge Park**, as funded by CPC 2024, with guidance of Tony Barletta.

Our proposal recommends 2 wayfinding and 4 interpretive signs. This is in accordance with the Henry Cabot Lodge Memorial Park Management and Restoration Plan written by William Giezantanner of Mass Audubon Ecological Extension Service and funded by CPC 2022.

Tony confirms that you need to request proposals from 5 companies and with the 7 groups we had sought proposals and the proposed cost of the project, we do not have to seek further bids. He suggests we refer to the Zoning ByLaws under Section 8 for guidance on signs (size, permits, etc).

Tony said that he and Zach Taylor, superintendent of DPW, had been discussing the various projects around town and their priorities. We asked about how **Bailey's Hill restoration** fit in to their plans. We described the plan submitted by Parterre, from CPC grant 2023. That company said that they would be happy to meet with us and describe their vision of the work, including purchasing, preparing the beds and installing plants in the fall. Their plan also included sessions for treatment of invasive plants at Bailey's Hill. All the members of the OSR Committee have received copies of the plan. Trish will contact Parterre to set up a time for them to meet with the committee, Zach and Tony in the near future, only if this would be at no additional cost.

Tony discussed **playgrounds** in Nahant. The replacement ordered for Short Beach Playground is scheduled to arrive in August. Some of the old equipment may have to be removed. A firm specializing in playground equipment and design NESRA engineering has been involved in our playgrounds and Tony is seeing a master plan for the Flash Road Playground. The bleachers and fencing of the Babe Ruth field are old. Tony explained that outside groups and clubs pay the town a good deal of money to use our fields. A group called Swing Factory?? uses the little league field. Our fields are much appreciated by Swampscott teams in which our youth participate.

Other issues to be considered include the soccer field which should be moved farther from the golf course for safety considerations. The Johnson School has received CPC funding to improve the portion of the Heritage Trail near the school and playground. A CPC grant was recently awarded to the town to replant trees in the golf course/playground area. Parking which is not adequate or organized in the Flash Road area. Tony would like to see a splash pad and

consideration of a public safety building. Mark Gallagher is on the State bid list so don't have to go through the procurement process. Zach is working on a capital spread sheet for the area.

Tony informed us that there is no money in the budget specifically for Open Space and Recreation Committee but that funds might be available from other areas and the committee can submit a budget next time. He also asks that we continue to keep recreation under our committee, as the Town recreation group specifically deals with organizing children's recreation activities and programming, and not planning.

Before he left our meeting, we discussed the fact that we now can appoint 2 new members, as voted at town meeting, after we receive approval from the Attorney General. Some possible members were discussed and will be invited to future meetings.

Tony left the meeting and the group then focused on the issue of **signs at Lodge Park**. The signs will resemble the one at the Nahant Life Saving Station and the National Park Service standard. Trish had researched various signs and recommends 150-200 words, and a mostly visual message (4 images). We talked about the possible use of a QR code on the signs for further information. After discussion it was decided to divide up the signs for planning purpose among the group. Trish will work on way finding, Ellen will consider one or two historical signs, Rebecca will work on distant geography profile sign, and Nancy will work on natural history. We discussed various people with whom we might consult on our topics.

The meeting was adjourned at 5 pm with a motion by Ellen, seconded by Rebecca. The **next meeting** will take place on July 10, 2023 at Town Hall from 1-3 pm. The meeting will be posted and interested parties are welcome.

Respectfully submitted to the Town Clerk's office, as approved at the Open Space and Recreation Committee meeting on July 10, 2023.