



Town of Barnstable Open Space Committee

Formerly Land Acquisition and Preservation Committee (see Town Council Agenda 2023-196)

www.townofbarnstable.us/OpenSpaceCommittee

Agenda	
Notice of Meeting as Required by Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2009, amending MGL Chapter 30A	
DATE	December 9, 2024
TIME	5:30 p.m.
LOCATION	Selectmen's Conference Room, 2 nd Floor, Town Hall, 367 Main Street, Hyannis

The meeting will be televised live via Xfinity Channel 8 or high definition Channel 1072. It may also be accessed via the Government Access Channel live stream on the Town of Barnstable's website:

<http://streaming85.townofbarnstable.us/CablecastPublicSite/watch/1?channel=1>

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS

Chair Malakhoff calls the meeting to order at 5:30 PM with an introduction of members:

Lev Malakhoff – Chair	X
Farley Lewis – Vice Chair	X
Elizabeth Lewis	
Douglas Payson	X
Elissa Crowley	Absent
Anne Rowland	X
Tracy Pratt	Absent
Cate Gulliver	X
Vacant	

Also in attendance is David Anthony, Director, Asset Management; Kyle Pedicini, Assistant Director, Planning & Development; Grayce Rogers, Property Manager; and Genna Ziino, Administrative Assistant.

Marie & Steve Rizzo, Donald and Deborah Reynolds from Cummaquid.

NOTICE OF RECORDING

This meeting of the Open Space Committee is being recorded and broadcast on the Town of Barnstable's Government Access Channel. In accordance with MGL Chapter 30A §20, I must inquire whether anyone else is recording this meeting and, if so, to please make their presence known.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

November 4, 2024 – Doug moves to approve. Cate seconds. All in favor.

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

New Business

- Pathways Project update – Grayce Rogers, Asset Management

Lev says he and Farley and others were part of ad hoc committee looking into taking care of pathways around town. Role has been absent in town for a while. Gives Grayce USB with hi-res images of logos.

Grayce says project was left off around 2014/2016 (friends of cape cod pathways). Sharing AmeriCorps placement looking at variety of projects, one is pathways. Looking to redo exercise from 2014 which is take an inventory of pathways. It's been discovered that

Planning & Development Department
367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA 02601 – Phone: 508-862-4678

the process involves a lot of private easements, and they are looking to reconfigure to be able to complete the path. Looking to update trailblazing, signage, kiosks that were implemented a decade ago. After inventory of trails in winter/spring, and then go to key stakeholders and ask for feedback—OSC is one of those stakeholders.

Lev says Ann Canedy had sent letters to Town Manager Mark Ells about it—including Flint Rock Road. Deeds show that that way does exist. Another concern is safety concerns at Cape Cod Community College, no safety features of crosswalk/light. John Cox, Cape Cod Community College president was in support of these upgrades.

David Anthony says Tom Larosa one of the town attorneys has this in the mix because ancient ways can be complicated. They'll continue to bird dog that issue. Thinks it would be town engineer who creates letter for the crosswalk—David Anthony will work with planning. Kyle says request has been made to (sent November 26) MassDOT for these improvements.

Doug says Harwich/Chatham has been aggressive in signage directing to where trailheads are. Doug says the public is unaware of the network of trails and public access. Grayce says county just gave her a bunch of signs to be implemented as part of this update. Liz Lewis arrives at this time. Doug says paths should also connect to sidewalks and not just roads. David Anthony says sidewalk requests come up frequently but are a challenge and take a lot more than is expected in terms of development and maintenance. He says they will take it under advisement as they come up with this plan.

Lev states that as part of NEMBA (New England Mountain Bike Association) he worked with the College to direct pathways onto trails and approached the state to create trails but are hoping those can be included in the update. Grayce says they'll be reviewed.

- Trail Condition Reporting – Dave Lafreniere, NEMBA

Lev introduces Dave. Presents process NEMBA uses that may be helpful to Town of Barnstable. Advocates for preservation for open space and promote cycling on Cape Cod. May be familiar with projects they've done: West Barnstable conservation area Walker Point deck; picnic pavilion; trayser boardwalk; adaptive trail loop w Spaulding rehab; 4 mile trail that rejuvenated trails around the College that were lost there; walks through more projects and activities. Comprehensive trail mapping done by their GIS dept. Point of tonight's visit is to present Cape-wide crowd sourced trail reporting system. Started out w FB group—introduced them to trail forks which has an app people can use to report trail conditions and more for maintenance. Will provide name of trail, status, photo, location data. NEMBA monitors that system and will decide if they need to dispatch someone out there. Users can subscribe to particular region so when a report is made of that area, you'll get an email notification. Trail data underlying the system is critical—NEMBA mapping shows 160 miles mapped in TOB and that's a lot to maintain. Implemented in April of 2023 and since then, 562 "house calls" of people sent out to remedy problems on cape cod. Fixed 140 in Barnstable and have 27 open reports in Barnstable. In some cases, they need to seek approval from the town before dispatching. In Mashpee they have certain agreements of some trails they are allowed to dispatch and some they aren't. Lev walks through the NEMBA page: trail reporting: how to report a problem on trail forks button: sends to tutorial. Walks through John Jenkins trail report. Dave says it looks like a chainsaw project. Their volunteers have insurance through their organization so no liability concerns. Shows Walker Point report—this is something they would consult w town about. Danforth trail report. Would like to coordinate to get reports closed. Want to raise awareness that this is available. Farley asks who monitors this. Dave Lafreniere does every morning but it's publicly accessible. Farley asks if there are any issues with liability with town. Dave says they don't encourage regular users to go out w a chainsaw. They have a million-dollar liability limit to insure their volunteers. Doug asks if there was a major incident, what's the protocol. Grayce says town has reporting system—David Anthony says it's a work order system through DPW. There's also a report button on the app where citizens can report. DPW is the muscle, Grayce is the administration. The challenge has been how to put in request for tree against any one of 100 things that have come up in 24 hours, so things get triaged in terms of priority. Dave says NEMBA resources are free, and they want to coordinate. David says the idea of clearing for a particular use is tricky. David says we have to see how we can interlace this with a work order system and with GIS (which is very insulated for a reason). There's a process and sometimes that process just takes a long time.

Doug asks Grayce about GIS mapping—it's a public safety issue right? Yes, a big part of the town's mapping is for public safety. They're implementing trail networks and it's significant. Dave asks what they're using for their source? He thinks even unofficial trails should be mapped in case of medical emergencies—is new GIS inventory including that? Grayce says there's a certain process they follow and GIS is much more in-depth and they are only including mapped trails. David says that's why there's an effort to close

a chunk of those trails—how they got there is irrelevant but they're there. It's a work in progress. Until a road is accepted by the town, it is a private road. Grayce says conservation is also working on re-blazing official trails for safety. David says OSC is more than mountain bike trails—how does this all jive together? In asset management they have a lot of land to manage—want to make sure this advisory committee is supported in its role. David asks what OSC expects from them and how they support the committee. Lev says he thinks there are no mountain bike trails in Barnstable—there are trails that some mountain bikers like to use. Trying to take advantage of resources NEMBA has to keep the trails as resources for all. Farley thinks the more path opportunities you offer people, the more opportunities you have for trouble. She thinks most people who want to go walk in the woods want a secure, nicely designed, signed trail to follow—not a path. Wants to discourage random trail making. Discussion of illegal motorized vehicle use ensued.

- Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Scope – Planning & Development

Kyle Pedicini presents: the Town is looking to get consultant, have made \$50,000 funding request through Community Preservation Committee. And seeking 20k grant from the state. CPC approved request and referred to TC and it will be heard in January. Presenting scope of work—includes stakeholder interviews. Asks if we could designate a representative to sit on committee to evaluate RFP responses. Hoping to have plan done by end of August. Liz says regarding the review of action items of last OSRP. Kyle says for this update, the first step is looking at that. Won't be full rewrite but will follow up on action items from last plan. Farley reiterates would like a short report this time. Committee is for RFP, once it's put out it will be Lev who sits on the committee. No objections.

Old Business

- Update on Centerville Cranberry Bog: Anne says 2 parties are still in conversation
- Update on Cummaquid Woods: Marie Rizzo says since last meeting, have walked property at 87 Oakmont with trustees OK and BLT and compact were there too. Found that there's a trail at Route 6 end of land, is primarily used by dirtbikes. An offer of 800k was made on Cobb Trust land. Asking price was \$850k and \$800k was not accepted. She's spoken to Lindsey Counsell, CPC chairman, and he's still interested in property. The group is still doing fundraising and haven't given up.

Farley says at last CPC meeting, property is part of enoch cobb trust so it's part of that—they really want every last dollar for that purpose. Also historic aspect as it's the last enoch property.

- Update on outstanding Conservation Restrictions

Lev has no updates.

- Update – Pathways update including walking library, NEMBA path project, and Geocaching
- Report from Tracy Pratt regarding Santuit Preserve

Tracy is not present. Dave and Lev walked out there w Tracy—Mashpee has some concerns w fish ladder. Concerned about impacts of motorcycles through that area.

- Report from Farley Lewis regarding Community Preservation Committee Open Space applications

Farley says LOI received from Barnstable Land Trust requesting 1 mil 350k in support of 30 and 31 Crocker's Neck road, 10.62 acres, Cotuit high ground golf course. BLT is trying to get grant money to offset. Moved on to full application status.

- Report from Town Council Liaison Kris Clark:

Kris Clark is not present

MATTERS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT

Cate moves. Doug seconds. All in favor, none opposed.

The list of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the chair, which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

Documents Used at this Meeting

Letter submission from Kyle Pedicini: Barnstable - Request for Crosswalk on Route 132 at the YMCA

APPROVED