

TOWN OF WOODBURY

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TROLLEY BED PLANNING COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, November 14, 2016
7:00 p.m., Senior Center

Members Attending:

Nancy Bailey Chris Wood
Tom Ecsedy Dave Taylor
Ron Taurick

Also attending: R. Anderson, M. Petrocelli, other members of the public.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. Acting Chairman C. Wood seated the five members present; a quorum was established. Chairman Wood referenced Section 8-21 of Connecticut General Statutes and Section 921 of the Town Charter, Conflict of Interest.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION OF DRAFT USAGE DOCUMENT – Acting Chairman Wood read some notes from Chair Bob Travers, which requested several editorial changes. He requested in the second sentence that it be written to include “former” water supply, and that the last sentence about the eventual purchase be removed. He also requested any reference to future purchase be adjusted to indicate actual purchase. Acting Chair Wood recommended the inclusion of a presentation by T. Anderson, which was inadvertently left out. Acting Chair Wood also read a note from Chair Travers regarding a meeting that he and First Selectman Butterly had with a family that is involved in maple syruping. He noted that they have identified an area in the northeastern corner that may be appropriate for sap collection. First Selectman Butterly suggests that the agricultural use be included in the draft document to cover the possibility that the Town may want to pursue this lead. Acting Chair Wood said he has concern about the environmental impact, although the area is not located in the main trail/reservoir area. The Town will ultimately decide whether this use is appropriate. Chairman Travers also noted that he has contacted A. Milnor from Flanders regarding clarification on horseback riding at the Whittemore. Mr. Milnor confirmed that there is no current horseback riding use on the Whittemore, although it is not restricted. He noted that the trails are not conducive to horseback riding. Discussion was held on equestrian use. Acting Chair Wood and D. Taylor both said their preference was no. R. Taurick suggested that there should not be large scale usage such as a hunt, due to the damage to trails. He did suggest that low volume, low impact usage could be allowed. Acting Chair Wood said he is concerned about possible conflict with bikers or walkers. N. Bailey noted that horseback riding is specifically prohibited on the easement from South Brook on the lower part of the Trail near Middle Quarter Road, and she expressed concern about how to restrict riding in one area and not another as this would be confusing. C. Wood also said that trailer parking would be difficult. T. Ecsedy reflected on the idea of a connecting trail network, which was introduced by J. Serota in his presentation. He said he understands the possible confusion over use on the rest of the property, but would like to see the option of a pass-through kept open. N. Bailey suggested wording that would allow for this possibility. C. Wood noted that all uses are subject to change when full information about the property is explored through a management plan. D. Taylor said that the

State easement suggests reluctance in letting the Town cut trails. C. Wood added that the Wetlands Agency may also have issues with trail cutting near the reservoir or wetland areas. All agreed to leave horseback riding out of the recommended uses for now.

D. Taylor asked about the camping item on the chart. T. Ecsedy said he and T. Hale had conversed about the camping option, and they saw the lack of sanitary facilities as a problem, and recommend leaving camping out as a recommendation. R. Taurick said he would like to see the possibility of small, organized groups, with a plan for supervision and waste removal, being permitted to apply for use. He noted that this parcel may be the only one large enough to allow this activity in Town for youth educational camping. He said he would like to see softer wording than "prohibited" in the report. T. Ecsedy suggested having a category for "prohibited" and for "prohibited for now". After more discussion, the group settled on leaving camping as a prohibited use in the report.

Discussion was held on Parcel 2 uses. C. Wood noted that he added a new paragraph addressing parcel 2 and that the only current appropriate use is walking on the old wood road that runs from the Whittemore to Tuttle Road. Much of parcel 2 is wetlands and is not appropriate for use. N. Bailey asked about a right-of-way between the two parcels in the deed, but no Committee member had information on this, and Acting Chair Wood said it would not matter as public roads connect the two. D. Taylor asked that some changes be made to the section on management. He would like to see the document reflect more strongly that the Conservation Commission be involved in the management/stewardship plan as well as the continuing property management. The last sentence will be revised to include this comment.

Acting Chair Wood reviewed the open issues from last meeting and all agreed that all issues were addressed except the name, which will be discussed last before voting on the plan. C. Wood asked if there were any other issues. R. Taurick asked if any signs had been posted on the property yet. C. Wood said not to his knowledge. C. Wood said the final draft will be ready for next meeting.

MEMBERS' TIME – None.

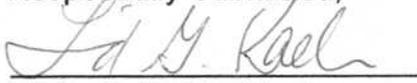
CORRESPONDENCE – Acting Chairman Wood said he received a letter from K. Barry, who has spoken at meetings regarding parking on Scuppo Road and an easement to the Town allowing only for turnaround. C. Wood said the Committee will make no parking recommendations, and that the letter should be reviewed by the Town and its attorneys.

MINUTES – D. Taylor moved to approve the October 31 meeting minutes; seconded by N. Bailey. Minutes unanimously (5-0) approved.

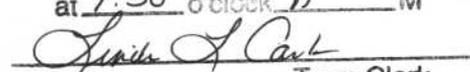
PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR – T. Anderson complimented C. Wood on the Draft Usage Document and noted that he likes the name used in the report. He expressed doubt about the feasibility of camping, as the only clear area is the reservoir bank. R. Taurick said he is not talking about large scale open area camping, and said he feels there is plenty of room in wooded areas for small tenting. T. Anderson said he is also glad not to see horseback riding recommended. He also asked why Park and Rec would even be involved in the management, as this property is more of a nature preserve. C. Wood thanked the public for their concern, attendance and input.

ADJOURNMENT- D. Taylor moved to adjourn; seconded by N. Bailey. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,


Linda G. Kaelin, Clerk

RECEIVED & FILED
IN WOODBURY, CT

This 17 day of Nov 2016
at 7:30 o'clock A M

Town Clerk