

EMERY ESTATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES OF

APRIL 25, 2013

PRESENT: Dan Condon (Chairman), Mary Heinrichs, Mary Jordan-Roy, Laura Lebaron, Bill McCarty and Janelle Quinn

ABSENT: Cathy Torrey, Ron Boretti and Pat O'Leary

OTHERS: Jim Clarke and Lee Hultin-Recording Secretary

Chairman Condon called the Emery Estate Advisory Committee meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the McCulloch Building, 82 Green Street.

Update on Activities:

Community Supported Agriculture

Jim Clarke and Mayor Kay invited Greg Watson, Commissioner of Agricultural Resources out to the Emery Estates and served him lunch on the back porch on April 9, 2013. Several important people were invited to this luncheon to look at the estate and get some feedback on what the town would like to do. The commissioner liked the location of the proposed agricultural area. Dan McCormack, Director of Health will follow up with them on this.

Mr. Clarke stated that the Department of Public Works will also be testing the well on site to see if it possible to use it for watering the farm. Mayor Kay is still discussing if she should put together a small working group to find a farmer for the estate. Mr. Clarke will be sending out an RFQ and solicit farmers within the next 2-3 months as they will need to get a business plan together. Jim Clarke stated that the town is planning on giving housing on site to the farmer.

Dan Condon asked if there was a timeline on this and Jim Clarke stated next spring 2014. They would like to have someone on board by this summer and begin planning to sell shares for next year.

The town will receive technical support from the state.

Driveway and Parking Design

Jim Clarke stated that the town put out an RFP and received 10 proposals. Mayor Kay put together a working group consisting of Jim Clarke, Kate Marshall, George Bezkorovainy and the Town Engineer. The group chose STV to do the work. The town is working with John Ryther who did the Back River Trail and the Herring Run.

Paul Tyrell from Weymouth will be the project manager for STV. He has never worked for the town but is very familiar with it.

Mary Jordan arrived at 7:10 pm

Jim Clarke stated that STV will look at the area around the entrance off Commercial Street to come up with several different options for an entrance and exit or perhaps one with both. Laura Labaron asked Jim to be aware of the old trees when putting in a new driveway and to try to preserve as many as possible. Janelle Quinn stated that she believes one entrance with an in and out might be better.

Jim Clarke stated that there will be two phases to this project with public meetings, the first being in June. He said the Emery Estate Advisory Committee may host it but Mayor Kay is not sure yet. The final design will be in the fall with another public meeting. Adjustments on Commercial Street could be done to make the area safe. The plan is to have this done within 6 months.

Dan Condon asked if it will be called the Emery Estates? Jim said most likely but he isn't sure. Mary Jordon-Roy suggested the Emery at King Oak Hill. It will be taken under advisement.

Mary Jordon-Roy stated that the Commission was very enthusiastic about the meeting and the Emery Estates. They can help with funds, marketing and also help get Norfolk County Agriculture up there.

Jim Clarke explained that the Mayor is still thinking about a managing committee for the Estate to help move it forward.

Janelle Quinn asked where the money would be coming from for the road design and Jim Clarke stated that CPC already approved \$90,000 for design work and we could go back to them for more funds for construction.

Dan Condon asked about how we were going to pay the salary for the farmer. Jim stated that we are not paying a lot because we are giving him housing in exchange.

Mary Jordan stated that at the final public hearing back in 2013 the report from Cecil Group showed the CSA in the black. The report the committee has showed it in the red. Why did the numbers change? Jim Clarke stated that the CSA would be in the red for the first 3 years and then it would be in the black.

The state has \$10,000 in grant money for farmers to start up. Mary Jordan-Roy asked if the soil that was tested at Emery was sent out yet? Jim stated that Dan McCormack, Health Director was working on that.

It was asked if we ever looked at renting cell tower space at the Emery? Jim Clarke stated no because there are already cell towers at Town Hall and First Church in this area.

It was asked if there are any summer events planned at the Emery and Jim Clarke stated no.

Dan asked Jim Clarke to think about a fee schedule for small events up there. He then asked, how the road race was received. Jim stated it was a tough course and transportation back was difficult. Bill McCarthy said that he had used a decimal reader up at Emery during the road race and it was 105. He said you could hear in the Mount Vernon neighborhood. Jim Clarke is planning another race in November 2013 again but it will be contained within Great Esker Park and will begin and end at the same location.

Bill McCarthy stated that Mount Vernon East/West used to have a block party 8 years ago and some of the residents are talking about doing it again, perhaps the Emery would be a good location for this as it is within walking distance.

It was asked what the plans are for the playhouse? Jim stated that there are no plans yet but he would like to see a historical display of the Emery in there for people to look at.

This committee will continue to meet quarterly and will meet again in July.

Adjournment:

Dan Condon made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 pm and was seconded by Laura LeBaron.
VOTED UNANIMOUSLY

Approved by:
