

WEYMOUTH PLANNING BOARD  
McCulloch Building – Mary McElroy  
182 Green Street, Weymouth, MA  
Tuesday, September 18, 2018  
MINUTES

**PRESENT:**

Sandra Williams, Chairman  
Paul Rotondo  
Ken Padula  
B.D. Nayak  
George Berg

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Robert Luongo, Director Planning & Development  
Eric Schneider, Principal Planner  
Andrew Hultin

Chairman Williams called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Padula made a MOTION to APPROVE the minutes of July 17, 2018. Mr. Rotondo SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED. Mr. Berg abstained.

**Discussion of OPEN SPACE and RECREATION PLAN and PLANNING BOARD ROLE**

Mr. Luongo explained the existing Open Space and Recreation Plan will expire in 2020. Tonight this committee is discussing the Open Space and Recreation Plan and Planning Board's Role in the plan. The updating of the OSRP should take approximately one year and the groups involved in the process are Conservation, Waterfront, Recreation and Planning Board. The plan is based on existing needs, future needs and renovations. The town will need to hire a consultant to get input; then the town may need to do surveys to fashion the open space plans. The last open space plan was completed in 2014. The town wants this new plan approved in 2020. Mr. Hultin stated most open space plans are 5-year plans; Weymouth has a 7-year plan to support acquisition, creation, and preservation of a community's open space and recreation infrastructure. The last open space plan was approved in April of 2014; the planning began in 2010.

**2014 OSRP Goals**

1. Improve the management of the town's parks and open space/conservation land.
2. Provide appropriate and sufficient facilities and playing fields to meet the demands of the town, in particular the youth sports organizations.
3. Establish a public/private stewardship program for the town's open space and recreational facilities.

4. Develop links such as a multi-use trail along the Back River that connects existing public land.
5. Protect, enhance and preserve important natural resources.
6. Preserve natural and cultural heritage while promoting passive recreational use of conservation land.
7. Improve park and recreational facilities to provide recreation opportunities for all ages and/or abilities.
8. Coordinate Healthy-Wey objectives with objectives of the Recreation and Open Space Plan.
9. Protect the town's public drinking water supply.
10. Preserve, protect and enhance the town waterfront as a recreation and historic asset.
11. Identify, protect and preserve scenic and unique historic, cultural and archeological resources of the community.
12. Continue the ongoing maintenance and improvement program of park and playground facilities.
13. Implement federal and state stormwater management programs.
14. Keep the open space and recreation plan relevant by integrating periodic updates and evaluations.

### **Public Participation Process**

Public participation is important and important to funding. Town Administration to create a working group and determine OSRP update needs and steer the update process. Open Space committee, working with the planning board, conservation commission, recreation commission, waterfront committee, and the historical commission, to advise on the Update Process and help facilitate the public participation process.

- Outreach to various town committees, commissions and stakeholders for input via a survey
- Online public survey
- Survey for sub groups (aging population, youth population, minority populations)
- Interactive public forum
- Public comment period on 2020 draft including public forum
- Social media, etc.

Mr. Rotondo suggested enhancing the walkability to our town's great facilities; fix the sidewalks. Mr. Luongo stated that could be a goal of the plan to make the places more accessible for all residents; where to park, how can people get to this park if there aren't any sidewalks or parking at this wonderful park.

Mr. Nayak asked how many acres are in Weymouth; how many acres are open space? Do we have enough open space? Mr. Luongo stated staff can find out the standard but he believes that the town is doing pretty good.

Mr. Berg stated in reality it's really a very small amount of time until 2020.

Mr. Luongo stated staff is starting to look at consultants soon. Most maps can be done internally. Soil maps need to be done by the State. A consultant can help put the OSRP book together and get the information from the public. The consultant will establish the vision for the OSRP; we need to include Union Point and their recreation plan. We need to understand Union Point demographics/populations. We need to try to keep the information in the OSRP more current than updating every 7 years.

#### **NEXT MEETINGS**

The next meeting of the Planning Board will be held on October 23, 2018, November 13, 2018 and December 4, 2018.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Berg made a MOTION to ADJOURN at 8:05PM. Mr. Nayak SECONDED the MOTION. It was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Malloy  
Recording Secretary

Approve



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Sandra Williams, Chairman

Dated:

7-20-2021

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