

MINUTES OF THE
EMERY ESTATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 24, 2015

PRESENT: Dan Condon (Chairman), Pat O’Leary, Bill McCarthy, Cathy Torrey, Mary Heinrichs, Laura LeBarron, and Ron Boretti

ABSENT: Mary Jordan-Roy, Janelle Quinn

OTHERS: Jim Clarke, Director of Planning and Community Development
Nicholas Bulens, Grant Writer and Researcher
Matt Brennan, Environmental Health Officer
Lee Hultin, Recording Secretary

Vice chairwoman Pat O’Leary called the Emery Estates Advisory Committee meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall, Mayor’s Office, 75 Middle Street, Weymouth.

NEW BUSINESS

Nicholas Bulens presented a power point presentation on Emery Estate to the Committee which included some of the following highlights:

- Review of What has been done
- Final reports includes (3) choices
 - Walking Trails
 - CSA
 - Event Venue/Weddings
- Town decided to look into the CSA option
 - Soil needed additives
 - State Financial Assistance only available for “nonprofit farmers”
 - Farmer needs to live onsite
- So the town cataloged the challenges
- Town looked at Trustees of Reservations
 - Serve more than 100 places
 - Manages Worlds End
 - Liked multiple users, not the CSA usage, liked the events venue (operates two event venues – Crane and Bradley Estates)
- Town’s preferred uses
 - Walking trails
 - Events venue (most popular suggested use)
 - Phased investments
 - Community gardens
- Town’s Vision
 - Town of Weymouth keeps ownership
 - Preserve view shed and public access
 - Investments are phased in

- After investments the nonprofit takes on financial undertaking for operations.
- Advisory Committee serves as the Towns oversight
- Town would assist with CPA funds for Capital Investments
- Trustees View
 - In December 2014 they submitted a statement of interest.
 - They will advise the town on Capital Improvement Projects
 - Keep public accessible

Next step:

Chairman Condon stated that he has met with Mayor Kay. The Mayor's CIP plan includes \$1 Million for asbestos removal, a new roof, and painting. Mayor Kay is committed to Emery Estates.

Cathy Torrey, Laura LeBarron and Ron Boretti all stated that they are members of the Trustees of Reservations. They are a top notch group but sometimes are pricey.

Ron stated that he wasn't too thrilled about the CSA portion of the Emery Estate plan but likes the idea of a community garden. He also didn't see a good budget plan for the project or a maintenance plan.

Pat O'Leary stated that she is very pleased the trustees are interested in the property. She has reviewed their other properties and believes this would be a great partnership.

Public Comment:

Dorothy Bosner, 38 Colosanti Road – Dorothy stated that she likes the idea of the trustees but there are other non-profits out there like a home for short-term care to house hospital patients. She believes the property can be used for other things.

Cathy Torrey stated that the committee already looked at these suggestions and came up with three viable options to present to the Mayor which is what the committee was assigned to do and now they are moving forward with these options.

Laura stated that she is a little concerned about some of trustees properties such as World's End because you need to pay to get into them.

Chairman Condon agreed with Laura LeBarron as an admission fee to use Emery Estates would not go over well with Weymouth residents, this is something we would need to ensure would not happen. Dan would also like to make it a requirement that the Trustees pull from local businesses when looking for vendors.

Jim Clarke will clarify the RFP process with Solicitor Lane. He is looking for support from this committee to move forward with an RFP.

Bill McCarthy made a motion to support moving forward with an RFP and was seconded by Pat O'Leary. Voted Unanimously
Jim Clarke will bring a draft RFP to the next meeting for the committee's review.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Laura LeBarron made a motion to approve the minutes of May 13, 2014 and was seconded by Cathy Torrey. Voted 6-0 (Pat O'Leary abstained)

Cathy Torrey made a motion to approve the minutes of June 10, 2014 and was seconded by Mary Heinrichs. Voted 6-0 (Pat O'Leary abstained)

OTHER BUSINESS- None

ADJOURNMENT

Mary Heinrichs made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 pm and was seconded by Laura LeBarron.
VOTED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted by:

Lee Hultin
Recording Secretary



Dan Condon, Chairman



Date



Mary P Roy
Chair

8/20/15