

# Worcester Recreation Committee Minutes

Location: Doty Music/Art Room

Time: 02/02/2023 6:41pm-9:02pm

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## 1 Members Present

1. Michael
2. Caitlin
3. Tracker
4. Nancy

## 2 Guests Present

- Josh Seidman

## 3 Approval of Minutes

The committee voted to approve the meeting minutes from 2023-01-05.

## 4 Old Business

### 4.1 Vermont Land Trust Management Plan, Review of Section 3

The committee collaborated in the session to update section 3 of the management plan and worked together to create an initial draft of the text.

#### 4.1.1 Action Items

**Everyone** Review section 4 and add comments by the next meeting.

- Note: The document may be found in the committee's shared Google Drive.

**Nancy** Send out a reminder email to the WRC mailing list about this task.

### 4.2 Grants

#### 4.2.1 Vermont Arts Council, Animating Infrastructure Grant

Caitlin reported that our grant proposal was accepted into round 2 of the reviewing process. We received positive feedback overall as well as some requests for further clarification in order to proceed through round 2. In particular, we need to identify which portion of the grant budget could be used for resurfacing the basketball court versus funding the artwork.

One option proposed was to include the Doty students in designing the artwork for the basketball court.

Josh suggested some possible avenues for reducing the cost of resurfacing the court.

The deadline for submitting our round 2 proposal is March 14th.

#### 1. Action Items

**Caitlin** Send out specific questions to WRC committee members for input prior to our next meeting, including finding out some details about how U-32 went about resurfacing their track.

**Caitlin** Create a draft version of our round 2 proposal for the committee to review by our next meeting.

#### 4.2.2 Better Places Grant

The committee reviewed Nancy's first draft of the community survey and made some updates.

#### 1. Action Items

**Nancy** Perform a final review of the survey and share it with the committee for approval on the mailing list

**Nancy** Send the survey on to the following outlets for posting:

- FPF
- Town Clerk (to post to the town website and to print paper copies for anyone who requests one)

**Tracker/Josh** Send 1-2 questions to the mailing list about adding trail networks to the survey

### 4.2.3 Possible Trail Connecting Mackenzie, Downs, and Wood Rd

Chris hiked and mapped the proposed trail and reported that it is in good condition but needs signage and possible parking access. Tracker shared a digital map that included the roads/trails in Worcester and Calais, all parcel boundaries, and a sample GPS route from Chris' GPS phone app.

#### 1. Action Items

**Tracker** Add Chris' latest GPS route to our trail map, determine which parcels it intersects, and notify the mailing list.

**Tracker** Write to the Middlesex trail committee to update them about the trail status, that we are working on it, and request more information about their plans.

**Tracker** Send the mailing list all of the landowner agreement documents that he has collected from the Calais Trail Committee.

## 5 New Business

### 5.1 Point to Point - VSECU

The annual Point to Point bike ride will be passing through Worcester in September. We are speaking with their project coordinators to help them locate a spot for their tent, likely somewhere on the Ladd Field or the town land behind Town Hall.

### 5.2 Route 12 Repaving

Josh Seidman noted that the VT Department of Transportation is in the process of repaving Route 12 and proposed that we should petition the state to add a pedestrian lane on one side (or both sides) of the road.

#### 5.2.1 Action Items

**Tracker** Send minutes to Josh.

**Josh** Send the committee any information he has regarding the repaving effort as well as a question to add to the community survey about it.

**Michael** Send the committee a list of any organizations that might be interested in collaborating with the WRC on this effort.

### 5.3 Ladd Haymeadow Haying

Josh Seidman offered to hay the Ladd Haymeadow this year. He proposed to amend the soil in return for exclusive rights to the hay produced on the amended section for a period of time to be determined by the committee. The committee plans to review the current rules around the Haymeadow's maintenance and respond to Josh's proposal by Spring 2023. One benefit to the town could be not having to pay for annual brushhogging.

#### 5.3.1 Action Items

**Everyone** Check the Haymeadow management rules to see if there are any conflicts with Josh's haying proposal and look up the amount spent on brushhogging by the town each year.

### 5.4 Scoping Studies from Roger Strobridge

Keith Cubbon of the Central VT Regional Planning Commission reached out to the Worcester Selectboard, asking if the town has any plans for increasing connectivity and accessibility around Worcester. Roger Strobridge passed the request on to the WRC, and we intend to make use of this connection to engage in conversation with the state about the possibility of adding a bike lane to Route 12. The WRC may also make other proposals once we gather more information from Keith about his program.

#### 5.4.1 Action Items

**Caitlin** Forward the email from Keith to the mailing list.

**Caitlin** Call Keith to express our interest and ask for more details.

**Everyone** Write to the mailing list to contribute any thoughts on this discussion.

**Tracker/Josh** Drive Route 12 and collect a first round of visual estimates on the amount of work necessary to widen the road for a bike lane.

## 6 Next Meeting

Thursday, March 2nd @ 6:30pm at the Town Hall