Norton Park Committee February 10, 2021 – Regular Meeting Zoom Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Robert Misbach, Vice Chair Nan Wasniewski, Patrick Reading, Kevin Byrne, Katherine Kosiba, Alternates Julianna Cameron, Linda Pasternak at 7:50 pm.

OTHERS PRESENT: Director of Public Works Jim Paggioli, Board of Selectman Liaison Denise Mizla, Andrew Norton, Cathy Russi, David Wasniewski, Paul Baldinger, Merrill Collins.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Robert Misbach called this Regular Meeting to order at 6:36 pm.

2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

No additions were requested.

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The January 13, 2021, minutes were submitted for approval. K. Kosiba noted that tem 9 approval. Fundraising should read: "The proposed number of engraved items have been spoken for and those donations total \$11,760." and the size of the bricks is "8" x 8". Also, P. Reading noted Item 12 should read, "P. Reading explained that the remediation will be completed under its own contract."

Motion by: P. Reading

to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2021, meeting with corrections as stated.

Second by: K. Byrne.

Unanimous to approve by those present. Vote:

4. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

A. Norton asked what money there is, what is needed for each phase of the project.

5. STATUS REPORT FROM JIM PAGGIOLI

Director of Public Works Jim Paggioli stated that the remediation and restoration of the site under the remediation contract will take the site to a stage where there will be grass. At this point, there are no funds to do any work other than what this committee can raise. Depending on the bids, there may be funds left from the grant that might be available.

At this time, there is a fence on the property for the remediation work. This fence may be be replaced with a safety fence in some areas. The closing has taken place for the 129 Westchester Road property and the deed will be filed tomorrow. This house and another in town will go to bid for demolition work that will be paid with town funds.

J. Paggioli will be meeting with a new DEEP representative tomorrow to bring her up to date.

6. MATERIAL LIST

- J. Cameron said she would like to write 'sold out' on the remaining flyers for the items that have been spoken for. Members agreed.
- P. Reading prepared a materials list spreadsheet to give the committee an idea of the cost of the phases of the project. It is not meant to be any more than a rough estimate. Phase I is

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grading, capstones for the walls, gravel in road and parking spaces for approximately \$180,000. Phase II would complete the design plan with paving, sidewalks, pavilion, trails, plantings, furniture, signage at \$190,000. There is an additional \$16,000 for potential off site expenses.

Paul Baldinger has offered help with this project and will work with P. Reading to move the design forward to schematic drawings with value engineering. P. Baldinger needs the drawings to apply to his company for him to do pro bono work.

Motion by: P. Reading

to prepare a package of information for P. Baldinger to submit to his company.

Second by: K. Byrne.

Vote: Unanimous to approve by those present.

Recently it was suggested to possibly involve college students in the landscape aspect of the Park. P. Baldinger's company may be able to develop a plan design to send out for estimates. K. Kosiba would like the committee to decide on the trails material as one may be more difficult to maintain than another. P. Reading suggested options in the proposal.

Motion by: P. Reading

to include options in the preparation of the proposal that prepared and sent to interested parties.

Second by: K. Byrne.

Vote: Unanimous to approve by those present.

P. Reading would like to develop the display boards with location, material and content for estimates. K. Kosiba had done some research for the boards and J. Cameron has a contact who has done similar work.

It was suggested that A. Norton help with the history board along with N. Wasniewski and J. Cameron. R. Misbach will work on river and the restoration with K. Kosiba.

7. ZLOTNICK PROPOSAL

No information at this time.

8. PUBLICITY

8.1 Neighbor Letter/Presentation

The "neighbor" letter has some minor revisions and will then be sent to the First Selectman for approval. K. Kosiba offered to print the letter and enclosures, the committee will pay for materials and postage, members offered to fold and stuff the envelopes. A "neighbor" forum is planned for February 25, 2021.

8.2 Public Forum

A public forum is scheduled for March 25,2021, both forums are through Craigin Library.

8.3 Lions Meeting

The Lions Club have requested a presentation at one of their meetings.

9. FUNDRAISING UPDATE

9.1 Amenity Reservations

The commemorative donations total is \$11,810.

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9.2 Monetary

K. Kosiba reported that the monetary donations total \$7,796. At this time, the only expenditure has been \$283.63 for the flyers leaving a total of \$7,512.38.

K. Byrne plans to submit a letter to the local paper noting the environmental impact and watershed information. K. Kosiba also plans to write a letter regarding the items that are for memorials. L. Pasternak said the Town does not have a separate list of town businesses but the Colchester Business Association (CBA) should have a list of their members.

10. GRANTS

K. Byrne said it could be May or June before the results of the submitted grant results are known. K. Byrne is working on an Eversource grant.

11. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

A. Norton suggested letting people walk the park as they want and then see where the path goes to make a trail. He noted that the full commitment value of the land and property should be noted on any grant applications. He was also concerned about the speed of the traffic on Route 149 in the area of the park.

- C. Russi stated that keeping track of time from volunteers may result in "in kind" donations and hoped there is good record keeping for the checks to be sure they go where intended.
- P. Baldinger said he is impressed with the efforts of this group and it is admirable what the committee has accomplished. He hoped the committee recognized the effort and time P. Reading has given to be able to submit the information to be approved by his company for the hours he may commit to this project.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by: P. Reading to adjourn the meeting. **Second by:** K. Byrne.

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

Chair Misbach adjourned this meeting at 8:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Slade Clerk