

MINUTES

CITY MEADOW COMMITTEE MEETING

APRIL 11, 2016

Call to Order: A quorum being present, Chair Mary ("Molly") Ackerly called the City Meadow Committee to order at 7:06 p.m. at Norfolk Town Hall.

Attendance: Committee members Molly Ackerly, Samuel (Pete) Anderson, Adair Mali, and Jim Stotler. Susan Dyer, First Selectman was also present.

Minutes: Upon motion made and duly seconded, the draft minutes of the regular meeting on February 8, 2016 were unanimously approved.

Correspondence: By letter dated April 8, 2016, addressed to Sue Dyer and to Robert DeSista, of the Army Corps of Engineers, DEEP has approved the revised plans for the City Meadow restoration. Sue Dyer also reported that she received an email from Dimple Desai, of the Department of Housing, dated March 24, 2016, concerning the "Main Street Investment Fund" grant. Requests for reimbursement must be submitted by September 5, 2016. In addition, the email indicates that all of the work must be completed by the deadline, in order for the town to receive any reimbursement and that an extension of time is very unlikely.

Discussion: Given the need to re-submit the plans to the Planning & Zoning Commission (and probably also to the Inland Wetlands Commission), and then to go through the process of soliciting bids from contractors, it appears that we could not start any excavation work before early August. Therefore, it was conceded that the town probably will not be able to utilize the Main Street grant.

Sue Dyer will contact Dimple Desai to explain that we have only just received the approval from DEEP, in the hope that there might be a possibility that the state would reconsider its position denying any extension. However, we will proceed as if all of the funding for the project will have to be raised from donations.

Pete Anderson has prepared a sketch of proposed platforms and steps from Station Place to the paths in City Meadow. His proposed design was unanimously approved. He will review this sketch with Steve Trinkaus, the civil engineer, so that Steve can incorporate it into revised drawings. He will also prepare a more detailed design, which will show additional features such as required railings, for Sue Dyer to provide to the Planning and Zoning Commission.

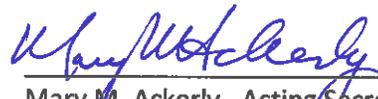
Sue Dyer will prepare an application to the Planning & Zoning Commission, and also to the Inland Wetlands Commission, if required. The goal is to submit the application, together with the updated drawings from Steve Trinkaus, by April 22nd, in order to be on the P&Z's agenda for its next meeting, which is on May 10, 2016.

There was further discussion concerning obtaining a rough estimate of the cost of the project. Sue Dyer and Pete Anderson will both work on this. This information will be important for fund-raising purposes, inasmuch as the town cannot commit to go forward unless it can be sure that funds will be available for payment of the construction costs.

In terms of timing, there was discussion that, if the funds are secured, it might be possible to complete the excavation and other work in the wetlands to be completed this year, and the boardwalks, parking, and steps down from Station Place to be done in 2017.

Next Meeting: The regular meeting on May 9th will be cancelled because it conflicts with the Town Meeting. A special meeting will be scheduled for May 11th.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.



Mary M. Ackerly, Acting Secretary
Date: 5/17/16