

**MINUTES
WATERFORD TOWN CENTER DEVELOPMENT
AD-HOC COMMITTEE**

August 19, 2021

Town Hall: 5:30 PM

Members Present: Miriam Furey-Wagner, Library Board of Trustees; Traci Santos, Recreation and Parks Commission; Melissa Chiappone, Recreation and Parks Commission; Jennifer Bracciale, Representative Town Meeting;

Members Absent:

Staff Present: Robert J. Brule, First Selectman; Abby Piersall, Planning Director; David Campo, Town Clerk; Ryan McNamara, Assistant Director, Recreation & Parks; Maureen FitzGerald, Environmental Planner; Anna Scanlon, Recording Secretary

Others Present: Chad Frost, Architectural Consultant Kent+Frost; Fran Violante, Resident

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting commenced at 5:30 PM

2. DISCUSS COMMITTEE PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES

In a unanimous vote Miriam Furey-Wagner was voted as the Chair of the committee.

3. DISCUSS WORK COMPLETED BY CONSULTANT TO DATE

Mr. Frost summarized the survey work completed at the pond vicinity and reviewed an initial concept plan for trails around the pond and connections to the library, the gazebo and playground areas.

Committee members discussed potential elements of the conceptual plan including: connected walkways, an outdoor event space at the library, a walking book trail, fitness trail, locations for benches, picnic tables, and outdoor grill locations and a possible warming hut or fire pit near the pond.

The committee discussed opportunities for pond improvements including dredging to improve water quality, adding a circulation system to filter water through a bio-filtration area north of the pond to improve aeration and updates to provide fishing and skating potential. Suggestions included natural plantings to better define portions of the pond edge in the wetter areas and the installation of artwork or plantings at the north end of the pond for a focal point.

Possible improvements to the playground to provide shade and seating at the perimeter and connectivity to the gazebo and Veteran's Memorial were discussed. Plantings were suggested to screen the Recreation & Parks maintenance facility.

The location of the trail around the pond and types of trail surfaces were discussed. Recommended surface types include concrete and stone dust for the perimeter and woods trails, and ipe wood for the boardwalk and pond overlook area. Trail widths and boardwalk dimensions were discussed. Information on types of lighting and signage was requested.

Potential improvements at the library were suggested to improve traffic circulation, pedestrian access and provide outdoor event space overlooking the pond. Mr. Frost reviewed options for additional parking spaces.

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Suggested improvements along the Rope Ferry Road frontage included reconstructing the stone wall further back from the sidewalk and tree plantings to improve pedestrian access and pond visibility were discussed.

The consultant will update the concept plan to incorporate feedback and suggestions from the committee for review at the next committee meeting.

4. DISCUSS SEPTEMBER 9TH PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Mr. Frost will refine the concept plan for additional feedback from the committee prior to the Public Presentation on September 9, 2021.

5. FINALIZE PROJECT TIMELINE AND COMMITTEE MEETING SCHEDULE

The following schedule was agreed upon with the time for all meetings be 5:30 PM:

September 2, 2021 – Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting Review of Revised Concept Plans

September 9, 2021 – Public Presentation

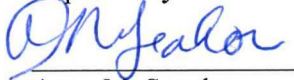
September 23, 2021 – Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting

October 14, 2021 – Tentative date for the Public Presentation

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Reported by:


Anna M. Scanlon