

**Scituate Planning Board, February 21, 2013**

TOWN OF SCITUATE MASSACHUSETTS

SCITUATE PLANNING BOARD

MINUTES

February 21, 2013

Members Present: William Limbacher, Chairman; Richard Taylor, Clerk; Robert Vogel, Eric Mercer and Stephen Pritchard, Alternate Member.

Members Absent: Daniel Monger.

Others Present: Ms. Laura Harbottle, Town Planner.

See Sign-in List for names of others present at this meeting.

Location of meeting: WPA Building, 7 Henry Turner Bailey Road, Scituate.

Chairman Limbacher called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M. The meeting was not being recorded for airing on the local cable television station or audio recorded.

Documents

- 2/21/13 Planning Board Agenda

ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA: Mr. Mercer moved to accept the agenda. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous in favor.

John Murphy, Waterways Committee seeking letter of support for Harborwalk

Documents

- CPC application by John Murphy for the Scituate Harbor Walk - Phase 2

John Murphy, Mark Patterson and Mike Bulman were present for the discussion. Chairman Limbacher indicated they were seeking a letter of support from the Planning Board for Phase II of the Harborwalk. Chairman Limbacher asked the men to explain in their presentation how the proposed project will be consistent with the Harbor Access Study.

Mr. Murphy indicated there is a desire to connect the Marine Park to the lighthouse via a path. The first phase of the Harborwalk was from Front Street to the Town Pier. Phase II will go from the Town Pier to the lighthouse and include 3,400 linear feet of path. The Waterways Committee has been working with the DPW and if CPC funding is obtained the DPW will build the walk by the fall of 2014. The walk is proposed as 5 feet wide to be made of bituminous concrete with granite curb edges. Chairman Limbacher indicated it will look like the bike path on Gannett Road. The Waterways Committee indicated that Jericho Road will be moved over 3 feet so that a 5 foot walk can be installed. This will be a safer more desirable scenario for road and path users. Mr. Vogel asked if bikers and pedestrians would share the walk. This was confirmed.

Mr. Bulman indicated that the path would connect the Bates House to Pier 44. There would hopefully be pocket parks with benches along the way at Pier 44, the boat ramp and Jericho Park among other locations. Ms. Harbottle asked about plantings. Mr. Patterson indicated the pocket parks would be planted and also have interpretive signs focusing on the town/harbor historical significance. Interpretive signs would be similar in nature to those already at Satuit Brook and along Cole Parkway. Mr. Patterson indicated that Scituate will be receiving \$325,000 for refurbishing the Town Pier and the Phase II pathway will be needed to safely get people from the Pier to the lighthouse. The path would also help boaters be able to safely get

around the harbor and out to Driftway and to the train. Mr. Patterson indicated that they hope to go to the Seaport Advisory Council for funding for Phase III. They will go there as soon as they obtain Phase II funding. Phase III will take longer to develop and be more costly as it will go to the Maritime Center and may involve a boardwalk across the marsh. The Waterways Committee feels money will be coming available to small towns for access issues. The Harborwalk would provide better circulation for pedestrians in the Harbor potentially freeing up parking spaces which would benefit the entire community.

Mr. Bulman indicated that the DPW will be reconstructing the Beaverdam/ Jericho Road intersection and it would be best to do the path in that area at that time. Chairman Limbacher indicated that the Harborwalk will provide a great economic benefit to the Town by helping the Harbor be a destination point. Mr. Murphy agreed that the walk would bring more people and business to the waterfront.

Town Planner, Laura Harbottle, indicated that the Planning Board did do a study in the late 90's on harbor accessibility. She would like to see continuity in landscaping and signage for the entire walk and offered that the money from the Laurelwood pedestrian fund could be used by the Planning Board for the Harborwalk design. Mr. Patterson indicated that money from Saltwater Fishing licenses needs to be used at the waterfront area for public access.

Mr. Vogel asked about the design of the walk. He would like to see brick at the crosswalks and so it is coordinated with Cole Parkway. Mr. Patterson concurred and believes there should be common design elements to the entire Harborwalk. Mr. Taylor indicated the interpretive signs could all be the same. Mr. Bulman said there was \$35,000 in the budget for a design engineer to do details. Mr. Pritchard suggested bringing someone in to look at aesthetics as cohesive design and details would be needed. Mr. Vogel suggested getting a landscape design school involved in a later phase. Chairman Limbacher indicated that the project would need CPC approval first. Mr. Murphy indicated that if the CPC approves the project in phases that the infrastructure could be done this year and then they could come back to the CPC for additional funding next year for the pocket parks. Mr. Patterson indicated there would be time after Town Meeting to work out details.

Mr. Murphy indicated they are looking for assistance from the Planning Board. The CPC meets on Monday to vote on the proposed funding and they would like to get a letter of support from the Planning Board as soon as possible. Mr. Taylor moved to whole heartedly support the project. Mr. Pritchard seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

Presentation by Lisa Fenton, Chairman CPC - cancelled

Planning Board Reports to Town Meeting for Zoning Articles

Documents

- Planning Board Report – Medical Marijuana, Planning Board Report – Flexible Open Space, Planning Board Report – Village Business Overlay District and Planning Board Report – Accessory Dwellings
- Final wording for Accessory Dwellings bylaw based on public hearing input

The Planning Board signed the reports for the zoning articles for Town meeting. The general procedure at Town Meeting was reviewed. The article will be moved and then the report will be read prior to discussion.

Accounting

Documents

P.O. # 13005034 (\$582.90)

Mr. Taylor moved to approve the requisition of \$ 582.90 to Gatehouse Media MA for the legal ad in the Scituate Mariner on 1/24 and 1/31/13 for the zoning bylaw changes for the Annual Town Meeting on April 9, 2013. Mr. Vogel seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

Minutes

Mr. Taylor moved to approve the meeting minutes from 2/7/13. Mr. Vogel seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

Liaison Reports - None

#### Town Planner Report

Town Planner, Laura Harbottle indicated that the Selectmen postponed the discussion on their agenda for the zoning articles. It will be on their agenda again in the next few weeks. Mr. Joe Joyce, who was present at the Planning Board public hearing on the zoning articles, was in attendance at the Selectmen's meeting on 2/19/13 in anticipation of the Selectmen's agenda items on the zoning articles. Ms. Harbottle also indicated that she was trying to obtain CPC administrative funds for revision to the Open Space Plan. Chairman Limbacher indicated he would discuss this with the CPC. Ms. Harbottle also indicated that the surety has not been provided nor the lot releases picked up for Dreamwold Estates. She indicated that the engineering consultant bill is still outstanding. The Board asked that a letter be sent to the developer to ask that the money be provided for the engineering consultant.

#### Old Business and New Business

##### Documents

- Staff report dated 2/15/13
- Town of Norwell Medical Marijuana Legal Notice
- MMA Medical Marijuana Seminar by Barbara St. Andre, Esq.
- 2/8/13 letter to Town Clerk indicating vote to transfer money from Planning Board Guarantee Account to General Fund

These items were distributed to the Board electronically.

Mr. Vogel moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 pm. Mr. Taylor seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Joseph  
Planning Board Secretary

Richard Taylor, Clerk