

Hazel Grove Planning Committee

MINUTES

JANUARY 4, 2012

7:30 PM

FIRST FLOOR MEETING ROOM
TOWN HALL, GROTON MA

TYPE OF MEETING	Committee Meeting
ATTENDEES	John Ott, Jean Armstrong, Gineane Haberlin, Meredith Scarlet, Patti Modzelewski, Adam Burnett, Laurie Smigelski (Park Commission liaison)
NOTE TAKER	Jean Armstrong

Agenda topics

MARTHA VINEYARD FAIRGROUNDS	Gineane reported on her visit to the Fairgrounds in Martha's Vineyard. In 1993 the Martha Vineyard Society purchased the land and moved a barn to the property. The society had financial help with grants from the Dept of Agriculture for renovating open space. This is something that we could look into. They also rent out the place for weddings, craft fairs and winter farmer market. They have three livestock barns. The society said that they would be happy to help with questions or provide guidance as we look to improve our fairgrounds.
1/18 MEETING PREP	<p>Reviewed plan for the January 18th meeting – session is intended to gather ideas from anyone who comes to the meeting.</p> <p>Discussed the information that we should have available in case anyone asks during the meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who owns the property – the town. Who controls the property – the Parks Commission How big – 28 acres – 11 – 12 acres infield. Existing buildings – Main Shed, 2 barns, shoeing shed, GPC Sheds, Food Shack, 2 Towers Size of track – ½ mile Who uses the track – Riding and Driving Club. Track is used only by RDC – the club holds liability insurance on the track and it is important to maintain the footing for the safety of the horses and drives (RDC maintains the track) <p>Questions to Ask to ensure we have information to fully assess the idea presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Who are you? What is your idea for future use? Do you represent an organization or just yourself? Which town are you from? What part of the facility would be used? What would be needed for this use (infrastructure) <p>Provide email for people to send ideas if they don't want to speak – Gineane's email.</p>
HISTORIC SUB-COMMITTEE	John provided a document called - What you need to know about listing on the National Register. It's a good overview of the process and benefits. The committee would like to contact potential people who might be able to do the work to apply for the listing. John to approach them to see if there is interest in the work, availability and get an estimate of cost. Plan is to apply for CPC funds in the next cycle for this work.
NATURAL RESOURCES SUB-COMMITTEE	Discussed the use of Hazel Grove as a trail head to the network of trails. There is access to the river, future loops within the property and link to wider network of trails. Adam gave the group an update on the discussions and plans for restoring the Fitches Bridge.
USE AND REVENUE SUB-COMMITTEE	Gineane added the idea of qualifying trotter races held at the Fairgrounds as a future use that would not require significant upgrades.
PARKS COMMISSION UPDATES	<p>Laurie provided some updates on a variety of topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has a map showing where the water is in relation to the property. 2. Plans to walk the property line with Brian Lagasse to understand where existing trails may cross the property line. 3. Provided a list of improvements made by the Riding and Driving Club
UPCOMING MEETINGS	1/18