

TOWN OF GRANBY
TOWN-OWNED LAND STUDY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
February 5, 2015

PRESENT: Mark Higby, Chairman, Terri-Ann Hahn, Margaret Lareau, Richard McDermott, Kathryn Miller, and Mary Jo Toczydlowski. John Adams arrived at 7:05 p.m.

OTHERS PRESENT: William F. Smith, Jr., Town Manager and Mark Neumann, BOS Liaison

Chairman Mark Higby called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

William F. Smith, Jr., Town Manager handed out a pamphlet: Freedom of Information Act information and two maps provide by Fran Armentano, Director of Community Development. He left the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Public Comment: None.

Minutes

The minutes from February 3, 2014 were reviewed and one correction was made, that being under Set Meeting Schedule, fourth paragraph, second sentence, the word place should be placed.

On a MOTION by K. Miller, seconded by T. Hahn, the Committee voted unanimously (7-0-0) to approve the minutes of February 3, 2014 with the noted correction.

At the suggestion of Committee member J. Adams, the members took a few minutes to re-introduce themselves and give a brief background of their credentials relevant to this committee.

Create a Vision of the Charge

Chairman Higby handed out a page with a suggested timeline outline, which was then reviewed. Some highlights include:

- The Committee needs to move along quickly to gain information and create a report.
- Criteria for evaluation – more detail may be beneficial.
- Look at user groups to gain objective data.
- Inventory of fields, etc. – demographic information, school population, and trends.
- Review school numbers, as they are declining. Recommending new fields may be a moot point if numbers are going down.
- Review the Plan of Conservation & Development, Revised 2005, 2007 and is presently being revised for 2015.
- Obtain maps of certain parcels (to be determined).
- Before getting input from town committees, get data early on.
- Properties presently being leased were discussed – leased for what purpose and for how long?
- Designated stakeholders, including abutting property owners to any parcel being reviewed, need to be determined.
- Possibility of distributing a questionnaire to user groups and determining which groups to invite to future meetings. Use Survey Monkey for online surveys.
- Fran Armentano, Director of Community Development will be asked to attend the February 19th meeting to share his knowledge on Planning and Zoning background and how the town has gotten to where we are today. J. Adams will contact him.
- Solar fields were discussed. Information should be obtained from the state as well as locally.

- Possibility of notifying abutters to let them know there is a committee established to study town-owned land – determine who and how to notify them.
- An article in the Drummer about this committee is thought to be a good idea.

There was discussion about holding the first public hearing. It was determined that it should be held on Thursday, March 26, 2015 in the Town Hall Meeting Room at 7:00 p.m. Notice of the public hearing will be published in the newspaper prior to the date. A suggestion was made to create a sandwich board with information on the public hearing and place it at the 107 East Street location a few days prior to the public hearing.

On a MOTION by J. Adams, seconded by K. Miller, the committee voted unanimously (7-0-0) to schedule a public hearing on Thursday, March 26, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

In summary:

T. Hahn will create a draft survey referencing a link on the Town of Granby website (to be established). Also, a draft notice/article to be put in the Drummer.

M. Lareau will create an Agricultural inventory and obtain some helpful solar data.

R. McDermott will address town demographics, town facilities, fields, user groups and trends and uses.

M. Higby will make a list of Open Space.

Committee members were asked to help create a list of stakeholders and email your list to Chairman Higby. He will create a spreadsheet with this information.

Set Agenda for February 19, 2015 meeting

Items to include on this Agenda are:

- Open discussion regarding current ideas for 107 East Street.
- Prioritize parcels of land to review and look at in detail.
- Formalize stakeholder list.

Adjournment

On a MOTION by J. Adams, seconded by T. Hahn, the Committee voted unanimously (7-0-0) to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Christian
Recording Secretary