

TOWN OF GRANBY
TOWN-OWNED LAND STUDY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
July 16, 2015

PRESENT: Terri-Ann Hahn, Acting Chairman; Mary Jo Toczydlowski, Kathryn Miller, Richard McDermott, Margaret Lareau, and John Adams (arrived at 7:04 p.m.)

Acting Chairman Terri-Ann Hahn called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Public Comment: None.

Review Agenda: Add two items: Recap of the June 18th meeting and site visit results.

On a MOTION by K. Miller, seconded by M. Lareau, the Committee unanimously voted (6-0-0) to approve these two additions to the Agenda.

Minutes

The minutes from June 18, 2015 were reviewed by the Committee.

On a MOTION by K. Miller, seconded by R. McDermott, the Committee voted 5-0-1 (abstention by M. Toczydlowski) to approve the Minutes of June 18, 2015 as presented.

Unfinished or Tabled Business

- a.) Recap of the June 18th meeting – T. Hahn reviewed the material covered at the June 18th meeting. The Committee spoke about what was heard at the public meeting. Some members created summaries with their ideas for the 107 East Street property. All ideas received should be fairly addressed. Using this property as farmland doesn't exclude another or different use in the future. The length of a lease was reviewed; anywhere between five and 20 years was mentioned. Maybe in the future agriculture will become bigger with more people interested in raising their own vegetables and animals for food. Traffic on East Street was once again mentioned.
- b.) Survey – addressed under New Business: Create Report Outline

New Business

- a.) Create Report Outline
T. Hahn provided a handout "Summary Report of the Town of Granby Town-Owned Land Study Committee". This is a draft report with suggested topics listed. T. Hahn reviewed each category, encouraging the Committee members to fill in the blanks where they can with information they have. Survey results (paper & website) were reviewed. Percentages of the survey responses were reviewed, providing interesting results.
Suggestions included:
 - add site data, inventory, photographs with descriptions, and demographic analysis (R. McDermott volunteered to do this part)
 - use the list of town-owned properties, as categorized, in the appendix of the report
 - combine the information gathered at the two public meetings
 - mention the new Town Plan of Development
 - add copies of any correspondence received
 - summarize in the report and add additional information in the appendix
 - J. Adams offered to write an executive summary

- combine paper & website survey numbers to show just one number or percentage
- note properties walked, using bullet points for the information

M. Lareau reviewed electronic data. She provided a handout of information, but commented that T. Hahn had pretty much covered the material she has in her report. She provided her own comments on areas of interest to her. She stated there was a lot of support for walking trails, a farm stand (defer to the Agricultural Commission for review and suggestions), and an arboretum.

Homework for members is to figure out what pieces you're willing to participate in. Each member should write up their information for the next meeting. The goal is to work toward creating a single master document. Mark Higby will be asked to compile the complete document.

- b.) Site visit report by M. Lareau and K. Miller – They walked the properties at Loomis Street and Heather Lane. K. Miller reported the Loomis Street property has about four acres of corn growing. That area is flat, but where the corn stops the land is overgrown and very wet. The Granby Land Trust might have an interest in some of the land that the town owns that abuts Land Trust property. Agricultural use only seems practical in the area presently being used. This area, if not used for farming, might be good for houses. The Heather Lane parcel is a nice piece. It's flat and wooded. The neighbors said the children like to play in the woods there. There are also walking trails there. The area behind the Granby Motel, T. Hahn reported is a stream corridor. She walked this area in the Fern Hollow neighborhood.

T. Hahn encouraged everyone who hasn't done so, to walk the property at 107 East Street before the corn gets too high.

Set Agenda for July 30, 2015 special meeting

Items to include on the Agenda are:

- Report outline
- Review other town-owned properties list – questions and answers

Adjournment

On a MOTION by J. Adams, seconded by R. McDermott, the Committee voted unanimously (6-0-0) to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Christian
Recording Secretary