

## Open Space Management Plan Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 14, 2010

Attendance: Committee Members: Dick Bauman, Marti Blair, Mike Duddy, Judith Dooley, John Marchewka, John Plaininsek, Town Council Liaison Jessica Sullivan and Town Planner Maureen O'Meara. Absent; Dena DeSena, Chair.

1. The Meeting was called to order at 8:20 PM.
2. There was no correspondence to review.
3. There were no citizen comments.
4. The Draft minutes of the October 12, 2010 minutes were approved  
The Draft minutes of the November 9, 2010 minutes were approved.
5. M. O'Meara presented a draft time table for OSMP Committee meetings. Additional meetings are needed in order to complete the Draft Management Plan by June 2011. It was agreed that an additional meeting, on the 4th Tuesday of each month will be held in January, February, March and April of 2011. M. O'Meara will re-do the meeting schedule.
6. In keeping with the Town Council's policy of improving communication, the public will be invited to offer suggestions and comments, starting in the early phases of development of the Plan. To that end, M. O'Meara has submitted an information article to the Committee for approval. The article was approved by the Committee with corrections, and M. O'Meara will forward it to the Town Website and to the Cape Courier for publication.
7. In Section V of the Town Wide Property Management Policies, subsection # 10, "Hunting" was reviewed. Several citizens have contacted members of the Committee and expressed concern that hunting is currently allowed on public land in Cape Elizabeth. Dick Bauman mentioned concern that hunting takes place in a suburban community, and that people move here from out of state, and are surprised to see hunters during hunting season. Is there a public danger, and is this inconsistent with other uses of public land ?

Mike Duddy spoke about Maine's long and strong hunting tradition, the absence of hunting accidents in CE, and the ample public land for this activity. Hunting with rifles is illegal in Cape Elizabeth. Shotgun hunting for waterfowl is legal on public land, during its' season. Archery hunting on public land for deer is legal in CE during its' season.

John Marchewka suggested increasing the hunting setback to 100 yards in from the property line of public property, and that we cite the Town, State, and Federal regulations in the Plan.

It is unsure how many hunters hunt for deer in CE. M. O'Meara reported that per State law, deer hunters erecting a tree stand on public property must first obtain permission from the local municipality. Tree stands must display the hunter's name, and must be removed at the end of the season. Tree stand violations, as well as other hunting violations are reportable to the local game wardens.

The Committee decided to list the CE ordinance, and reference State and Federal hunting regulations, but not to recommend creation of a new hunting policy. The Committee will recommend increasing public education and awareness with website flyers, articles in the Courier, and trail signage that notifies the public of "multi-use" activities to include hunting during hunting seasons.

8. Linkages to Town owned land/easements were not reviewed due to the late hour.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Sullivan