

Buxton Comprehensive Planning Committee Meeting

Minutes for August 19th, 2019

-Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

-Members in attendance were Mark Blier, Henry Huntley, Jeremiah Ross, Cliff Thomas, Galen Cunning. Also in attendance, Jim Logan, wetlands soils scientist with Longview Partners, giving assessment of site suitability for the Sesquicentennial Celebration project

-Jim first asked for clarification on the scope of the Sesquicentennial Celebration open space project. We reiterated that we were asking EPA for permission to open up town hall property space for community space and an eventual gazebo for Buxton, with the acknowledgement that funds will have to be requisitioned for the completion of the building. Jim also asked for clarification regarding our definition of open space; we had considered a reduction in canopy coverage of the space to about 40% in the past, but are currently undecided on the exact amount

-With regard to the open space project, we mentioned reducing the square footage of the exemption from 68k to 50-55k, as well. We also decided to use the 160' setback established in the prior permit to maintain consistency with the existing town hall property. We will need to get Jim a copy of the original building permit for the property

-Also, as we are not adding fill to the space, we should be able to grub stumps and reseed without issue. We will work with our landscape contractor for reseeding with a "conservation mix". Perhaps some very light shimming will be allowed, this is not expected to be necessary. We asked if lime and fertilizer could be allowed and the answer was unknown amongst the group

-Outside, during a brief site walk, these items were touched upon:

- Leaving existing screening between the project and Public Works Building, as well as planting hemlock, if more screening was deemed necessary

- Wooded paths are exempt from square footage requirements, as they are considered recreational trails less than 6' wide, while gravel and stone dust paths are not

- ADA path and impervious surfaces will need more definition in our plan

- Limbing instead of tree removal could be beneficial in minimizing disturbance for this project

- Jim stated he will need another visit to the site with his partner to complete his work

-The next meeting is scheduled for September 16th at 6:30 p.m.

Agenda for the Next Meeting:

Sesquicentennial Celebration open space progress

Potential for a Community Solar Array on town property