

MINUTES
FOREST PRESERVE ADVISORY BOARD

January 19, 2012

7 p.m.

PLANNING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICES
CONFERENCE ROOM
COMMUNITY CENTER, SUITE 200

CALL TO ORDER: Call to order at 7:06 p.m. – Ginny Mudrock at 7:06 p.m.
Present were board members Damien Ossi, Joseph Murray, Donna Hoffmeister, Valerie Elliott, Susan Gregersen, Ruth Kastner, and Rodney Roberts, as well as Planning Department staff Jaime Fearer

- The board welcomed Councilman Rodney Roberts

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – The agenda approved unanimously

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – On the motion of Mr. Ossi and seconded by Ms. Elliott, the October 20, 2011 minutes were approved with two minor changes (add “concert” on page 2, first sentence of paragraph 5; add an “e” at the end of “Charlestown” throughout)

OLD BUSINESS

Regulation changes regarding dumping: Staff noted that changes have been approved by Council. Staff needs to develop rules for use of Yard Waste yard by general public. The board asks about dumping yard waste, and Mr. Roberts stated that there has always been a ban in place and to call Public Works for pick up. Joseph noted that people are dumping yard waste by his house. Regarding dumping at Belle Point: Code enforcement staff has obtained a judgment against the property owner for failure to address dumping and construction vehicles. Staff is arranging to have equipment removed and site cleaned and cost will be levied as lien against property.

FP regulatory sign: Final sign was presented to FPAB for review. Staff still needs to recommend locations. Sign diet sign was also presented to FPAB for review. FPAB approved of both signs. Ms. Gregersen noted the need to update the sign at the entrance to Lake Path between Charlestown, the retaining pond, and the tennis courts – it currently says “Alcohol Beverages Prohibited” and it should say “alcoholic.” The board proposed the following regulation sign locations (none needed at Boxwood Preserve):

- 1) End of Plateau Pl.
- 2) Two at Belle Point – one at Charles Towne North and one at the lake
- 3) Two at Northway – one at main trail head and one at baseball field
- 4) Hamilton Pl.

- 5) Spellman overpass
- 6) Laurel Hill trail head
- 7) Sunrise Preserve

FP entrance signs: Status of remaining signs – Need to discuss sign location. Sign location needs to be selected as well as leaf design – FPAB tabled this until Ms. Craze is present to discuss.

Post FP brochure to website: Ms. Mudrock will check on the status of the online brochure before the next meeting. At the August meeting it was suggested that we embellish the site with list of trees, wildlife, etc., and topics have been assigned to individual board members. Ms. Gregerson sees this as a long-term project with valuable information to share. Ms. Mudrock will add the itemized list to the agenda so that work may begin on it.

North Woods Tract Trail erosion: FPAB approved creating zig zag log structures/steps at trail head near “no biking” sign and behind mulch pile. Staff reported that Lesley has photographs of similar treatment to submit to the City Manager for his review, and nothing further from FPAB is needed at this time.

Need committee members: The board would like to run an article in the News Review. Mr. Noll has sent first draft to Board; Ms. Mudrock will send the draft around again so board members may review it and send in comments.

Review Pumpkin Walk trail report: Mr. Murray reported that the old Pumpkin Walk trail appears to have recovered fine, and FPAB will check again in the spring to see if this year’s trail has recovered. Mr. Roberts pointed out that the old trail wasn’t suitable for the walk. Mr. Ossi said that it is important to check the conditions on the trail before the walk and before sending people into the woods in the dark, particularly children. Mr. Roberts suggested putting down a ground cover of some sort (straw or mulch), and Ms. Mudrock and Ms. Gregersen said guidelines from a horticulturalist specify no ground cover for fear of invasive seeds. In addition to checking in on the trail in late spring, the trail should be checked again in September, and the board will get involved with scouting and planning for the next Pumpkin Walk. When discussion around possible other sites began, the issue was tabled until February to discuss further.

Ticks in preserve: This will move up in the agenda so that Lesley may attend the meeting.

Next Meeting date: The next meeting was scheduled for February 23, 2012.

Future agenda items: The Sunrise preserve/tract will be discussed at the next meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

These minutes were approved by a vote of 8-0.