

CITY OF GARDNER
Open Space and Recreation Plan Steering Committee

Gardner City Hall – Manca Annex
115 Pleasant St., Room 202

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MEETING

Wednesday March 29th, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

VIRTUAL MEETING

ANNOUNCEMENT - Any person may make a video or audio recording of an open session of a meeting, or may transmit the meeting through any medium, subject to reasonable requirements of the Chair as to the number, placement and operation of equipment used so as not to interfere with the conduct of the meeting. Any person intending to make such recording shall notify the Chair forthwith. All Documents referenced or used during the meeting must be submitted in duplicate to the Conservation Agent for the Conservation Commission. All documents shall become part of the official record of the meeting.

Members Present:

Sophie Dorow, Gordon Leedy, Rob Oliva, Norman Beauregard, Trevor Beauregard, Arica McCarthy, Anna Wilkins, Ron Cormier, Steve Rockwood

Members Absent:

David Orwig

Guests & Visitors:

MEETING – brought to Order by Sophie Dorow at 2:00 pm

Discussion

Gordon goes over briefly about how prioritization of open space was obtained via screenshare. “Open space inventory” states the similarities to previous plan.

Developing action plan which Gordon states is still under construction.

Goal One-Goal Six

Reviews old maps on 2015 plan and recaps the main differences in the updated maps that are complete for the 2022 OSRP. Added term limited criteria that includes chapter 61. Priority ranking map needs to be updated and action plan.

Sophie begins screen sharing Action plan map, and Arica goes through the changes that need to be made and questions/conversations. Parkers pond public access point, add note

to Leo Drive continue improvements to Bailey Brook Park, change the tag from “outdoor pool renovations” to “plans for outdoor pool improvements” add marker regarding pickleball courts but not certain what location. Rob to check on location of the pickleball courts plan. Inquiry by Dave Orwig to move pointer for “newly protected lands” in northeast portion of map to small parcel to south of pointer, resolved.

Arica opens discussion up for any other comments that the committee may want to address on other maps or the plan itself.

Gordon states the action plan goals have been updated according to prior meeting.

Anna believes prioritization was important and well-done.

Trevor to reach out to MRPC to inquire that Jason has the materials needed to help complete some portions missing to complete the maps. Trevor waiting for Jason to send a proposal of cost and work hours on these tasks, 8hrs of MRPC time per year.

Gordon proposes timeline for scheduling next meeting, have a public session to the city council, planning board and conservation commission. Proposed upcoming schedule, once draft is finalized, is as follows:

1. Present to conservation commission
2. Present to City Council
3. Present to Planning Board
4. Compile and submit to DCR for review and receive their comments and finalize the final plan. Hoping to finish this all by the end of May as a timeframe. Hoping to have the final draft plan....

There will be one Public Hearing meeting where a public hearing to receive public comments will commence and a presentation of the final plan to the Planning Board, City County, and Conservation Commission will jointly occur. Endorsement letters will also be provided

Following this meeting, the next step would be to send the endorsed draft plan to the state for review.

Closing Discussion/Next steps

Once draft is complete and reviewed, we can make it available to the public once again prior to the public hearing and then secure the meeting date and post another legal ad and agenda.

Upcoming Meetings

Undetermined

NOTICE: These Agenda items consist of items that are reasonably anticipated by the Chair to be discussed at the meeting and are specifically allowed to be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.