

Notes from the September 23, 2008, Parks, Trails and Open Space Meeting

The meeting was convened at 7 p.m. with all Committee members present

A. Bolton & Menk Trail system study

Dan Lonnes provided the Committee with an update on the status of the Study and reviewed with the Committee the recommended side of the roadway for each trail segment. At this time it appears right of way, if graded, is available to accommodate each trail segment. He noted that while the trail would be accommodated within the right of way, in most cases temporary easements from adjoining property owners would be required during construction.

Dan and his team will be reviewing each roadway and trail segment to confirm their design. The Committee asked the final design for each segment provide an 8 ft wide trail located as close as practically possible to the edge of the right of way, with the greatest separation possible from the roadway and shoulder.

Dan thought their final design and costs estimates would be available for the next Committee meeting late in October. This will delay the presentation of the Trails Study and the Committee's recommendation to the Board to the December 4 Town Board meeting.

B. A program for informing the Town's residents about the Trails Plan before the Annual Town Meeting

Ann Wiesner and Dana Montgomery of Grassroots Solutions attended the meeting. Grassroots Solutions provides outreach strategies and coaching on public issues. They would provide focused, professional assistance to the Town and Committee members in the use of current and best practices to educate (not advocate) residents on the Trails Plan and the Town's capital improvement plan to implement the system.

The Committee, Ann and Dana discussed the next steps, challenges, schedule, strategies and roles to assure residents have the opportunity to understand the Trails Plan and its implementation.

C. Town Park Site

Mike Thelen, Kim and Jen reported on their meeting with one of the owners of a potential Town Park site. They reviewed the issues and alternatives they discussed and the encouragement they received from the owner on the use of the site for a potential Town Park.

Mike Thelen reported he had scheduled a meeting with the owner of another of the first round potential sites the Committee has identified. Mike Thelen, Kim and Jen were identified as the team for this meeting, but may be replaced by other members if they are available.

Kim recommended a fourth first round site be considered for investigation. The Committee directed Mike C to prepare and analysis of that parcel.

D. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Committee was set for 7 p.m. Tuesday, October 28.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM