

Norwell Pathways Committee

Minutes June 8, 2010

Present: David Vose, Anne Staples, Christine Josti, Sally Turner, Scott Raeside, Todd Thomas. Member Kevin Cafferty arrived during H.W. 25% discussion and member Chris Mickle arrived during Merchant Row discussion.

Non member present: Steve Ivas

Call to order at 7:17pm

Added to agenda: CPC comments and discussion of modifying high school path section.

Draft agenda accepted (Christine/Anne).

Minutes of May 25, 2010 accepted (Anne/Sally).

7:20pm discussion of 67 River Street. There is a potential pathway from Gaffield Park to Norris Reservation via 67 River Street. Con. Com, Reservation Trustees and CPC are willing to put funds towards the purchase of this piece of land. CPC is asking for Pathways Committee support. Motion by Sally/Scott "Norwell Pathways Committee will support any proposal to purchase a section of 67 River Street for purpose of pathway access". Unanimously accepted.

7:35pm discussion of Wildcat Lane. The Con.Com meeting was postponed again until June 15, 2010.

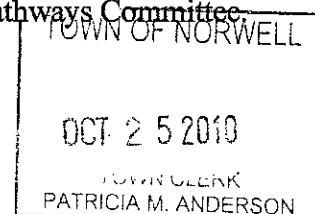
Discussion on Merchant's Row connection: Scott will re-visit potential connection details (Merchant's Row to Little League Fields) and Spinea requirements and report back to this committee. Todd will give Scott a contact name.

CPC comments and discussion: Anne reported to committee that CPC was upset that the Pathways Committee did not have a visual report at the past town meeting. Discussion led to giving CPC quarterly updates as well as putting pathway updates in newspaper.

"Greenway" Presentation by David Vose: David showed slides of various pathway systems and materials for us to think about.

H.W. Group 25% Design Plan discussion. Chris presented information from a previous Con. Com meeting. Notes attached. Motion (Scott/Anne) to "direct H.W. Group to go forward and file an ANRAD with the Con. Com". Unanimously approved.

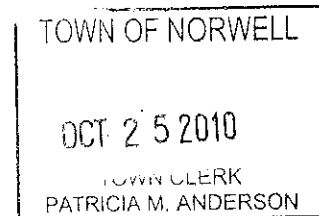
Ending discussion: Pathways Committee will request a meeting with the Planning Board. David Vose will draft a memo informing all boards as to status of Pathways Committee.



Anne will call Highway Department to have fallen bike rack either removed or fixed by Friday at the Cole School.

9pm motion (Anne/Chris) to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Josti
June 22, 2010



Notes for 6/8/2010 Pathway Committee Meeting Minutes

Chris Mickle presented to the Pathway Committee some advice provided by the Conservation Commission. The following bullets represent what Chris presented to the Pathway Committee.

- 1) Chris re-iterated the overall support of the Conservation Commission for the work the Pathway Committee is doing and the Con Com wants to help the committee take steps forward and make progress
- 2) Regarding the size of projects that impact 5000 square feet of wetlands, the area between Cushing Hill and the Middle School would be considered one project as projects are determined by the work done in a general area that impact the same wetland system.
- 3) The Conservation Commission upholds the Wetlands Protection Act and decides the best practices up to 100' away from wetland resource areas on various properties to protect the wetlands. It is very likely the Conservation Commission will look to limit work involving the construction of a pathway through wetland resource areas as the Massachusetts State Wetland Act requires that project result in no net loss to wetlands.
- 4) Some advice for the Pathway Committee is to start having Horsley Witten's (or another consultant) wetland scientists start advising the Pathway Committee, designing the project, and prepare a filing for the Conservation Commission. This will open a public meeting which will provide the forum for the Pathway Committee to begin conversing with the Conservation Commission regarding the various options for the pathway through the wetland area such as material types, widths, total square footage of impact, replication possibilities, etc. Only in an open public meeting can these things be discussed with the Conservation Commission and unless there is a specific project being filed under a Notice of Intent (NOI) filing the Conservation Commission can only speak about the projects general concepts.
 - a. One approach now would be to take the delineated wetland line by Horsley Witten with the surveyed lot lines and file an ANRAD (Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation) which would initiate a public hearing, notify abutters with the purpose of defining a confirmed wetland line on the land

intended for the pathway which needs to be utilized in the design and will be good for 3 years with the ability to be extended.

- b. It is also suggested to have the Pathway Committee's wetland scientists look into the possibility of filing this project as a limited project because of the limited access to the land they intend to use which forces the wetland crossings. This would come during the NOI Filing which would happen once the Pathway Committee has a pathway designed, approved and want to move forward with in construction. The design of the pathway in the NOI filing should show all the steps taken to minimize impacts to the wetland resource areas. Limited projects allow for somewhat > 5000 s.f. of wetlands to be altered but would still require mitigation and replication of at least 1:1 ratio. The Town's bylaw calls for a 2:1 replication area mitigation
- 5) Final comment from Chris is that the Conservation Commission likes the idea of using boardwalks, which are elevated, and allow animals and habitat to move freely underneath and also allow the passing of light for vegetation.

