

Lyme Common Committee

April 1, 2019

7 pm

Present: Barbara Balch, Judy Brotman, Tim Cook, Lisa Hayes, Katie Kalata Rusch, Earl Strout,
Laurie Wadsworth, Michelle Whitcomb

Absent: Vicki Smith

Public: Rusty Keith

Barbara moved to approve the minutes from the 2/4/19 meeting. Michelle seconded and the minutes were approved.

The committee welcomed our new selectboard representative, Judy Brotman. Judy was updated on the progress so far: the committee has broken up subcommittees to work on certain areas we have identified. Those subcommittees are Parking/Safety, Landscape/Usage, and Structures.

The committee is asking that Russell Barnes be officially added to the committee by the selectboard. Tony Pippin has stepped down.

At this point, others can join meetings as community members. Pausing before adding anyone else from around the Common at this time.

The group proposed a ListServ post five days before the meeting indicating that everyone is welcome and we encourage people to attend. The meeting should also be added to the Town calendar if not there already.

Subcommittee reports:

Parking/Safety

This subcommittee met and talked through a rough map that was shared with the committee. We talked about areas where parking could be an option as well as possible crosswalks for safety. Sidewalks would need to be created in order to make crosswalks. The Town would need permission from businesses on the north side to create a sidewalk. The subcommittee is working to get a DOT rep here to evaluate everything in that area, including how many and where.

Landscape/Usage

Dina sent our letter to Eversource regarding burying the power lines. Eversource's response was that they need \$40,000 upfront before they would talk to us. Total figure for the project is approximately \$400,000 but that doesn't include telephone or internet. We were reminded of our mission that we are not deciding the projects but rather if this is something we need/want to recommend to selectboard. Tim will work to get something in writing so the committee has more concrete information to evaluate.

Additional power outlets on the common are the other issue. This is why the committee initially formed. It would be helpful to look at a map that identifies power, signs, trees, etc.

Structures

Katie and Tony did not meet but Katie did draft a document on all structures that have been mentioned with pros and cons. It was suggested that the Structure subcommittee combine with Landscape and Usage. Michelle moved that we combine the two. Katie seconded. All approved.

It was noted that the cannon is one of the structures and it doesn't have to stay in its current location.

Subcommittee assignments

Laurie would like to join the Structures/Landscape/Usage subcommittees and move off Parking and Safety which was agreed to by the committee. Judy will abstain from joining a subcommittee at the moment.

Subcommittees should meet prior to the May 6th meeting to have next steps in each respective area.

The committee briefly discussed presentation to the selectboard. It was suggested that we list all the recommendations we have talked about but note if there are ideas that we didn't support.

Other Business

Patty Jenks had an email from a small group of Lyme 7th graders proposing a water fountain on the Common. This will be added to the Structure/Landscape/Usage subcommittee.

Memorials and plants will also be added to that subcommittee.

Bike safety will be added to the Safety/Parking subcommittee.

A path across the Common in the winter was discussed. It will be added to the Structure/Landscape/Usage subcommittee.

Next meeting is May 6th at 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Hayes