

Town Common Committee Meeting Minutes
April 30, 2024
Draft

Members Present: Maggie Gordon, Lenore Budd, Rachel Kring, Nathan Fry

Members Absent: AJ Driscoll

Staff Present: Alex Weinhausen (Director of Planning & Zoning)

Dubois & King Representatives: Emily Lewis

Public Present: Paul Wieczorek (Hinesburg Tree Warden), Andrea Morgante

Lenore Budd called the meeting to order at approximately 5:40 PM.

1. Agenda Changes:
 - None
2. Minutes of Prior Meeting - Lenore motioned to approve the minutes from March, and Maggie seconded. Minutes approved by voice vote.
3. Review revised DuBois & King plans:
 - Revised engineered plans were sent to Act 250. Hopefully considered a minor administrative amendment with no hearing needed.
 - Plan says “tree species subject to change,” so hopefully some wiggle room if we make changes.
 - Nothing submitted to DRB yet but will need to for pavilion. Hope to submit to DRB within a couple weeks.
 - Emily walked us through changes since Brett presented
 - Now more space between play area and pavilion
 - Pavilion area now 30’ square in case we want a bigger structure; still needs to be 10’ from manhole.
 - Pavilion could maybe be angled if it has a smaller footprint within the 30x30 square area because of how grading will be done
 - Andrea suggesting we could potentially use piers instead of platform for pavilion - would be easier to build with volunteers and concrete pad would be expensive - need to get costs and compare
 - Nixing the north sidewalk made half moon shapes instead of circles at entrances (for tractor or other visual interest item)
 - There was a lot of conversation and concern from the committee that some grassy parts of the Common will stay wet, even after site improvements are completed; this was the first time we discussed this possibility. Emily told us we can’t fix entire site without major fill over the whole site. The raised parts will be better - the green will still be wet.

- Committee asked if DuBois King can show us a different alternative that dries out the lawn area
- Agreement among all that under-field drainage would be too costly over the whole site
- Nature of soil - clay makes it hard to dry out no matter what you do. Need to change soil profile with well-draining material on top if we really want to dry things out.
- What are we talking about for cost difference if we put down fill over the whole site? Emily clarified it's not within DK scope to do cost estimate but they can do rough estimate
- Nathan asked if we can just extend fill from playground area to not totally go back to the drawing board
- Emily to go back and have a discussion about what's possible
- What will swale look like?
 - Stone underneath with soil on top - could put down turf or plant on top
 - Paul cautioned that there will be additional maintenance if you do rock - still things growing among the rocks; simplest thing would be a grass swale that you can mow.
 - Emily wanted to make sure we know that you will see water ponded in there from time to time.
- Trees
 - We can afford to buy more trees than what's currently shown on the plan
 - Replace some ash along the road and remove some trees
 - Look at large oak near 116 entrance - already obstructing traffic visibility and will obscure entrance (Paul to look at)
 - Planting on Creekside side can get as close to drainage pipes as we want

4. Deferred discussion on Pavilion Design/Planning, Timeline, and Funding to next meeting.

5. Next regular meeting dates: April 14 and 28

Meeting adjourned at 7:00

Respectfully Submitted,
Rachel Kring, Secretary, Town Common Committee