

Westerly Municipal Land Trust Minutes

Monday March 28, 2011

Council Conference Room

6:01 P.M.

1. **Call to order** – The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.
Trustees in attendance were Mayers, Mallard, Federico, Hannegan, Martin and Gencarelli.
2. **Approval of Minutes –February 2011**-Motion by Mallard to approve the minutes seconded by Gencarelli and unanimously approved.
3. **Executive Session** – RIGL 42-46-5(a)(5) Approval of February Executive Session Minutes. Land Acquisition-Potential Bradford donations. Postponed until arrival of Les Crandall. Motion by Hannigan, seconded by Mallard to postpone until later in the meeting.
4. **Old Business**
 - A. **116 Canal St. Update – nothing new to report**
 - B. **Other properties**- Trustee Mallard reported that former President Crandall had notified her that the road in the Avondale Preserve is starting to get large cracks. She will have to explore further and take some photos to share with Trustees. We can discuss further at our April meeting.
 - C. **Trustee Consensus on Web Page Design** – Trustees have not seen the web site yet. Trustee Martin is continuing to work on the formatting and photographs. Once it is finished, she will forward the link to the Trustees for review. Trustee Martin is exploring domains for the website. www. Westerly Municipal Land Trust.org would cost \$250.00 for ten years. Trustee Martin will explore domains further.
 - D. **Lilac Playground Update – no new activity**
 - E. **Financial Update** – Nothing to report. No changes since last spread sheet.
5. **Payment of Bills**- No new bills
6. **New Business**-

A. Meeting with representatives of the Recreation Board

(Bradford Preserve Discussion) –Kevin Morrone and Vero Morrone joined the meeting to review their preliminary plans. The lacrosse field would be 330 x 180 feet. The Rec. Board reiterated their commitment to maintaining the field and keeping it free of litter. The gravel parking lot would be large enough to accommodate 30+ cars (per the plan we received) and would be approximately 80 feet from the field. The Westerly Area Youth Lacrosse Association would obtain grants to cover the cost of the parking lot. The need for fencing for the parking lot was discussed.

The issue of porta-potties was discussed in terms of maintenance and removal. The Westerly Area Youth Lacrosse organization would take responsibility for this aspect. There was discussion about whether they were needed at all. It is anticipated that the field would be financially self-sustaining and not reliant on Town Funds. Maintenance would be handled by Westerly Area Youth Lacrosse.

Documentation (two letters received from them) will be added to the official minutes. Liability coverage was also discussed. The lacrosse organization carries their own insurance.

The lacrosse season runs from late March until June. The Recreation Board stated that they do not plan to fertilize the field in the Bradford Preserve because it will be a limited use field. The Recreation Board does not anticipate using the field for additional sports/seasons. The Recreation Board was informed by President Federico and clear that a meeting would have to be held with WMLT before any changes to this situation were to be implemented.

Interface with neighbors to explain the plan along with applying for necessary permits was discussed. If WMLT agrees to the project, it is anticipated that the process would take until next year. WMLT will discuss further and get back to the Recreation Board. If approved, a second meeting could be planned to discuss WMLT requirements for the site. Trustee Martin raised the issue of whether the Lacrosse group needs to know about prices for the parking lot, fence, etc. before going to the planning board. The Recreation Board does not feel it is not necessary now as they have already been apprised of some of the costs.

The Trustees agreed to formally discuss and act on this issue at the April 25 meeting. Next month's agenda can be modified for public comments to take place after Executive Session prior to the Board's discussion of this item.

B. Update on "Westerly Conservation Group" – group is run by Harvey Perry and is a consortium of local conservation groups. President Federico attended the last meeting on March 11, 2011 and reported on items that

were discussed. Forestry plan for the Town Forest was discussed. A program to maintain and publicize Westerly rights of way was also discussed.

C. Memorandum of Understanding- between WMLT and the Recreation Board was suggested by President Federico to prevent any misunderstandings about what they will be responsible for re: the Bradford Preserve field if the Board votes go forward with an athletic field there.

7. Public Comment – No members of the public were present.

8. Next Scheduled Meeting- April 25, 2011 in Council Conference Room

Adjournment- Meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lise B. Mayers
Secretary