Meeting Minutes  
Upper Green Advisory Committee  
Tuesday, October 29, 2019  
Newbury’s Municipal Offices, 12 Kent Way, Byfield, MA 01922

Members Present: Robin Etheridge, Janice Forrest, Anthony Matthews, Fred Thurlow, Amelia Random

Meeting Opening and Updates

At 7:09pm, R. Etheridge announced that the Upper Green Advisory Committee meeting was open. A motion was made by F. Thurlow and seconded by A. Matthews to vote J. Forrest in as temporary clerk in Amelia’s absence. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes from the October 8 and October 15 meetings were reviewed, and edits were suggested. A motion was made by F. Thurlow and seconded by J. Forrest to approve the October 8 and October 15 minutes with the edits. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes from the October 26 public forum were reviewed, and edits were suggested. A suggestion was also made to have a sign-in sheet for the next public forum and to request each person state their name and address when they are recognized to speak. A motion was made by J. Forrest and seconded by F. Thurlow to approve the October 26 minutes with the edits. The motion passed unanimously.

Amelia arrived at 7:22pm and assumed the clerk duties.

Discussion and Next Steps

F. Thurlow commented that we need to be able to turn off any device which may be used to repel the geese.

F. Thurlow did some research using Google Maps on the town property lines of the Green and the right of way vs. what is shown on the “current conditions” map/plans provided by GreenER. The lines on the plans are drawn where the pavement ends and do not consider the right of way.

As an alternative to moving the baseball field, J. Forrest suggested extending the guardrail near the intersection of High Road and Hanover Street to enhance safety. J. Forrest commented that painting the guardrail black could make it less noticeable.

Based on feedback from the public forum, the committee members discussed writing a letter to the Board of Selectmen outlining a few initial suggestions that could be done before winter and appeared to be widely supported by the town. Together, the committee members drafted a letter outlining the following recommendations:

- Trim the trees on the Green and conduct a simultaneous health assessment. This would be done by Newbury Tree Warden Tim Lamprey, who has been in discussion with us and agrees with this recommendation.
- Complete a first application of gypsum with the goal of improving drainage. Tim Lamprey has advised that gypsum, which is organic, aids drainage by breaking up the soil.
- Remove stumps from the perimeter of the Green.

The committee agreed to send the letter to the Board of Selectmen and then reconvene once Newbury Tree Warden Tim Lamprey had conducted the tree health assessment. At that point, a more complete list of suggested Upper Green repairs could be refined and then presented to the public in a second public forum meeting.
A motion was made by A. Matthews and seconded by J. Forrest to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

Amelia Random
Upper Green Advisory Committee Clerk