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## EASTON CT **Town of Easton South Park Advisory Committee** March 9, 2020 **Senior Center**

1900 Call to order by John Cunningham

Committee members present: John Cunningham, Ross Ogden, Tara Sanft, Lisa Keane, Bob Schrage, Jeff Becker, Elliot Leonard, Dwight Senior, Committee member not present: Andy Kachele

Ross Ogden not yet sworn in, therefore unable to vote in this meeting.

- 1. Introductions of committee members
- 2. Nomination of committee leads:
  - John Cunningham nominated by Elliot Leonard for Chair, second by Jeff Becker, vote was unanimous
  - Elliot Leonard nominated by Jeff Becker for Vice Chair, second by Tara Sanft, vote was unanimous
  - Lisa Keane nominated by John Cunningham as secretary, second by Tara Sanft, vote was unanimous
- 3. Committee will plan to meet once a month at a minimum, date to be set.
- 4. Committee to invite Planning and Zoning committee, Conservation group, Board of Finance and the Treasury office to the next two meetings for a summary of South Park property standings, John Cunningham to send invitations.
- 5. In the Feb 6, 2020 Board of Selectman meeting, the charge for the South Park Advisory Committee was set:

## Charge for the South Park Avenue Advisory Committee Feb 6, 2020

There shall be a Committee appointed by the First Selectman on the future use of South Park Avenue which is charged with investigating and reporting to the Board of Selectmen on the options for the future use of the approximately 30 acre parcel owned by the town of Easton since 2008, located on South Park Avenue and bounded by South Park Avenue and the Mill River.

The committee may consider any future use, whether or not such use is consistent with current zoning, for said parcel. The committee shall consider the fiscal impact of any future use. The committee may consider mixed uses. The committee shall consider whether the town should retain ownership, sell or lease the property, or engage in a public/private project.

The committee is authorized to contact any and all persons or entities who may have relevant information or interest in the parcel, including but not limited to town officials and town organizations.

The committee shall have a minimum of five and a maximum 9 members who shall be residents of the town of Easton. The committee shall complete its work and file a written report with the Board of Selectmen on or before June 30, 2020. The committee shall appoint from its members a chair and a secretary and such other officers as it may deem appropriate. The committee may request an extension of time to complete its work.

Adopted by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Easton this twentieth day of February 2020.

- 6. Brief discussion of the town's acquisition of the South Park property and it's purpose. Easton's Annual Town Report from 2008 should have exact statement, committee to have for next meeting, to include the stimulus for acquisition. This committee will take a number of recommendations to the Board of Selectman. It is not expected that this board have a unanimous recommendation but instead come together with open minds and receptive thought process in order to best serve the town.
- 7. As a practice, it is advised that there will be at least two committee members present when meeting with interested parties concerning the South Park property, all understand.
- 8. The committee will make all meetings public and reach out to the town's citizens for input/interests/information gathering through the Easton Courier and other avenues.
- 9. This committee is tasked to have a report to the Board of Selectmen by June 30, 2020, but there is a possibility for a short extension but it is in the best interest to have report in a timely manner.
- 10. Plan for task specific committees once we have had reports presented.
- 11. We will ask each presenting board/committee to provide a summary of their pertinent information related to the property to be used for our consideration.
- 12. It is OK for all committee members' information to be shared amongst the committee and photos to be used in communications, ie Easton Courier.

2000 Motion for adjournment, vote was unanimous.

Minutes submitted by Lisa Keane, Secretary