

TOWN OF EASTON  
South Park Advisory Committee  
Minutes of Regular Meeting of March 1, 2021

Location: Virtual Meeting via Zoom – access as follows:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/2cMiFeE1dah1bgfK0H0BON1FIMIQAfMd49CZBCAGKmbaXMhdoK2n0ZUv-wKXKCpFLJz5bmlVOBXuFetXB> Passcode: eHZo0#Wj

Meeting ID: 573 146 5822

Password: SPAC0301

Total attendees – members: 8, public 4

1. Call to order 7:04 by John Cunningham,

Committee Members present: John Cunningham, Tara Sanft, Ross Ogden, Jeff Becker, Elliot Leonard, Andy Kachele, Dwight Senior, Bob Schrage.

Members of the public present: June Logie, Grant Monsarrat, Grif Conti, Chris Mikos.

2. Discuss and approve Minutes of Meeting of February 1, 2021.

Correction: spelling correction for Harold Roznick, attorney. And per June Logie, reference to Dwight's property should not be reflected in the minutes.

Motion to Approve by Andy Kachele, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Elliot Leonard, vote on approval tabled at request of Dwight Senior until after public comment

3. Public Comment

June Logie restated her previous comment re Mill River for reference by the Committee.

Vote to remove item from table and approve the minutes was unanimously approved.

4. Discussion of a communication received from Grant Monserrat was led by Andy Kachele. Andy provided comprehensive replies to the communication, point by point. Importantly, the identity of the party who spoke to John Cunningham and asked for non-disclosure was put in context.

The party has not made a proposal and has merely asked about what might be included in a proposal submitted to the Town. A proposal has not yet been submitted.

The next topic discussed was whether or not a potential conflict of interest exists due to Committee members' involvement on additional Boards and Commissions. Cunningham noted that the Selectman constructed the Advisory Committee with individuals that had relevant background on the disciplines required to formulate comprehensive advice to the Selectmen.

5. Old Business:

Updates from Committee Members re investigations

1. Solar Farm – Bob Schrage reports that Citrine contacted him to ask about whether it was a good time to talk further about the

project but in reply it turned out that the solar company was not raising its offer.

2. Ag application – Grif Conti & Jeff Becker talked about Mr. Conti's experience with Hemp growers. There may be interest in a pilot program for hemp on the South Park property. Mr. Conti works as a recruiter but also has experience in retail offering hemp. Per Mr. Becker, right now it would be a good time develop a proposal for hemp use. Mr. Becker believes that Mr. Conti could find someone interested in farming hemp. Mr. Conti and Becker will prepare a proposal for Committee to review.
3. Educational Nature Center – Nothing new to report
4. Preserve and protect – Dwight Senior – gas lines need to be mapped. How wide is the easement? Ross will circulate a map noting the gas line and Dwight will gather information from Public Works.
5. Residential development – Ross plans to collect more correspondence re interest in horse and agricultural usage and distribute to the Committee when available. He will also develop a proposition for advising Board of Selectmen about marketing the property.
6. Commercial development – Elliot Leonard reports that in terms of commercial use for the property, most firms he has contacted are reluctant to formulate development plans for Easton projects.
7. Status of grant application – John Cunningham reports that the State approved the grant of \$188K to ALT against the appraised value of \$475,000. It is likely that the award timetable is late Fall to 4<sup>th</sup> quarter. Many details need to be addressed.
8. Status of modified Blaze Proposal – Andy Kachele has not received anything from the Blazes.

6. New Business:

1. Discussion of additional contacts and investigations: Per Jeff Becker, the window will soon be closing for getting started at the property for an agriculture based project.

7. Public comment:

Mr. Mikos points out that there was discussion of a senior living project at the November meeting. Mr. Cunningham said that bonafide proposals are discussed at meetings.

8. Plan for next period: next meeting will be the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of April - April 5.

9. Adjournment