Fryeburg Parks, Open Space, and Beautification Committee

**Minutes from Public Meeting 11/10/’21**

at the David and Doris Hastings Community Center

**Meeting was called to orde**r: 6:05 pm

**Attendance**: Charlie Buterbaugh, Tess Dana, Nora Schwarz

**Weston’s Beach**:

Review of our phone discussion on 10/12/’21 focused on the inaccuracies in the glossy report submitted by Caroline Paras ie. open to the public until 11 pm?

We discussed whether we should submit a statement vis a vis the Weston’s Beach survey results and our thoughts regarding changes that should be made prior to the beginning of the ’22 season? Tess Dana will send an email to Katie Haley on behalf of all of us.

**Admiral Peary Park**:

We discussed our walk about and thoughts on improvements/enhancements. There is agreement with others (Town representatives, RERC advisors) that improving Peary Park to increase its use and appreciation is a priority, it is a “high profile project” and should be done. We all like the idea of creating an “entrance” at the monument perhaps by repeating the plantings, moved from the triangle as a result of road construction, on the other side of a short stone or granite walkway. One or two picnic tables could be nestled on the park side of the plantings to entice picnicking away from the road which will subsequently contain trash to that area rather than closer to the intervale.

Regarding the Labyrinth (proposed by Greg Huang-Dale, Keli Ryan and others) Tess and Charlie are in favor of this being an immediate part of the initial plan while Nora would like to see the view of the intervale improved through some strategic pruning, the “entrance” and picnic area established and two benches placed closer to the intervale for bird watching, photo taking, and contemplation. Nora sees the wide open space as being flexible, for kite flying, a landscape painting class, outdoor yoga classes, and a spot for a friendly game of catch. Charlie suggested we bring Eli Goodwin, a Landscape Architect, also on the Planning Board, out to the site for a consultation, he will invite him.

Tess knows of a Fryeburg Academy advisory group that may be interested in doing the pruning, she will raise the possibility with Katie, Erin Mayo and pursue.

We will plan to include all of this investigative work for the Town Report and submit something else in writing for the 2023 Budget indicating hopes for ’22 and thoughts beyond that.

**Beautify Main St. and Portland Street**:

A collaborative effort with who? Would candles in windows of town buildings enhance the welcoming effect for visitors and those passing through? Nora will see about prices for bulk order of battery operated candles with timers and if there are monies remaining in our 2022 budget we can potentially make that happen.

Tess will speak to Ali of Lemon and Tulips about the Monument and greens for the winter.

**Other topics**:

a)Tess has set up a meeting with Anne Ball from RERC to get her thoughts about Peary Park, others will try to attend but regardless Tess will offer some notes in the aftermath.

b)Nora is concerned about our attrition, she feels that there are a lot of meetings which leaves less time for action and younger people with full time employment and family responsibilities can’t do it all… we lost Laura D., Jake S., and most recently Jennifer L-E. Nora reiterated her suggestion of our having a core group and others to serve as advisory council bringing particular skill sets to our projects, Tess was interested and also agreed that perhaps collaborating among the Town’s Committees, with a hired person to help us do so, would help.

**Remote Participation Policy**:

 Review, discuss, and sign

**Next Meeting**: January 11, 2022

**Meeting was adjourned**: at 7:25 pm

These meeting minutes, submitted by Nora S., were approved on 1/11/’22 by the Fryeburg Parks, Open Space, and Beautification Committee