

Community and Public Works Planning Committee (CAPP)
Monday, September 28th
6:00 P.M. at Town Hall

Members Present: Aimee Baxter (Chair), Carol Sowl (Vice Chair) Red Eldred, Anne Lacy, Deena Schuppee,
Absent: B, Alsgaard, Ed Kale, Sue Moe, N. Nelson Mary Ross (Alt), Holly Tourdot
Others in attendance: Tom Morin, Kitty Herriot

1. **Roll Call:** A. Baxter called the meeting to order at 6:15 P.M. and the roll was called. A. Lacy agreed to take minutes.
2. **Minutes:** R. Eldred moved to accept February 17th minutes. C. Sowl seconded. MC. C. Sowl moved to accept minutes of May 5th meeting. R. Eldred second. MC. C. Sowl moved to accept minutes of June 2nd meeting. A. Baxter second MC. R. Eldred moved to put notes from July 8th informational meeting on file. C. Sowl seconded. MC

3. **Reiman Park Public Informational Gathering, July 8th:**

C. Sowl **summarized** meeting, and read letters she has received since the meeting regarding the Reiman property. The **suggested** ideas for development at the public meetings range from nature trail, renewal of sugarbush, playground, to campsites (including RV).

Reservations expressed at the meetings were that the Town has parks that are in need of maintenance and resources; developed park (i.e. camping) on the north end could require police supervision; risk of wildfires; privacy of neighboring property owners.

Discussion: Question was asked: "Do we need a park?"

Timeline? Belief (CAPP) is that there is no urgency to move on development. Review and revision of the Town's Parks and Recreation Plan as part of Comprehensive will start next year (2010) for five year revision.

Discussion of existing parks: Concerns expressed about maintenance; supervision; sanitation facilities. Question: Do we have any data on how often the Town Park is full?

Motion: C. Sowl moved that CAPP recommend to Town Board that no action be taken on Reiman property at this time and that the property be included in the scheduled five year review and revision process (2010) of the Park and Recreation Plan A. Baxter seconded.

Discussion: What makes property more development worthy than other parcels of Town owned land? Question posed about trail system at north end. Is Reiman property connected to existing trail system? (Ans. Close but not currently connected) R. Eldred's long range vision: Develop wilderness camping at north end connected to and trail system from downtown. Further discussion led to need for needs assessment and importance of setting a development deadline for property, for example by 2020. Importance of being more definitive. Discussion followed: Call for vote: Motion failed

Motion: C. Sowl moved that CAPP recommend to the Town Board that no action towards development of the Reiman family park be taken in the 2010 budget year; that the development of this parcel of land be considered only as a portion of a comprehensive needs assessment of Town owned land, as the Park and Recreation Plan for 2011-2016 is

considered. This needs assessment should include a survey of existing campsites and access to public trails. A. Baxter seconded. MC

Tom Morin spoke: Agreed that needs assessment for long range planning is essential. Concern for fire; personal vision is for wilderness camping and extensive trail system. Kitty Herriott spoke for importance of preserving those “special places” on the Island (Many that she knew as a child are now private property or over used. She offered her view that it’s important to preserve the character of the north end as special wilderness. Discussion of needs assessment process: R. Eldred asked if CAPP will be committee to revamp Parks and Rec Plan. Added that valid needs assessment will require extensive data collecting, requiring professionals.

Action: R Eldred agreed to call Northwest Regional Planning Commission to learn what the process of needs assessment entails. How would Town be involved in assessment? Timeframe? Costs?

4. Reports from ad Hoc Committees:

A. Affordable Housing: A Baxter reported that the DNR and Denise Lutz (Ashland Co. Housing Authority) met at staked two sites on County land for construction of duplex and fourplex. Tom Langraf (specializes in green and affordable housing) also involved.

B. Alternative Energy: See minutes from following 2009 meetings: 6/25, 7/8, 7/20, 8/12, 8/19, 8/31

5. Next CAPP meeting: November 9th; Agenda the same as 9/28/09 with addition of Parks and Rec Plan.

6. D. Schupee moved to adjourn. C. Sowl seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7: 35 P.M..

Minutes approved as presented November 9, 2009