

## Glover Planning Commission Minutes

January 23, 2024

The Zoom meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM.

Randy Williams, Jim Bowes, Steve Lowe, Olivia Neal, James Coe, Nella Cargioli Coe and Liz Nelson were present.

Steve moved the minutes be approved as written. Seconded by James. So voted.

Randy introduced Olivia Neal, our newest member. She lives in Glover Village, is the Secretary of the Glover Fire Department and volunteered to work with Karen Gerherty on grants. Olivia spoke with the Fire Department about the requested permission for the clean-up. They are aware of our request, but we have not received any comment or agreement. Randy had spoken to the fire Department and we have also sent a formal written request asking for a return written permission. Cindy has handed a copy directly to Job. Olivia said they are planning to have a full department meeting on February 6, 2024 and this will be discussed at that meeting. James asked if we are considering trying to acquire this property for the town of Glover. Olivia can help with this idea.

Randy said there are two options: The Town could pay the Fire Department to acquire the land and building. It is valued on the Grand List as \$10,500, or the Fire Department could donate it to the town. The Fire Department might like to return to the old system of financing the department. They do have a difficult situation in that they are not reimbursed for any of their calls, unlike the Ambulance Squad.

Steve suggested that we might be able to find some grants for the fire department. A list of needs would be helpful for that search.

<https://www.vacd.org/programs/rural-fire-protection/>

Megan Carter's plan for the riverside was a narrow scope and did not include any land going over to the Still Hill road. We have the approval from ANR to go ahead.

Jim reported on his search for grants to put up EV charger/s on the green. It continues to be a slow motion process although he has gotten an email back from Emily Eckert of the State program. He will persevere. Randy had suggested that Jim also contact our reps at NVDA to see if they could assist in this effort, which he has done.

James and Nella reported to us about progress of the Green project. They are moving forward. Nate Sicard was able to do a survey on bare ground during a thaw in mid-December. The survey locates the poles, wires, and utilities for the civil engineering work of grading, and also has done a deep survey showing the layout of the sewage pipe and the pipe underground that brings water from a spring on the hill across RT 16, under the road and the green to the nursing home to be used for the sprinkler system.

Pat Russell is understandably concerned that nothing of that system be damaged. He discovered that the top of the bank on the green side of the river is the boundary of the active flood plane on the Federal Flood Plan. The gray line is the ANR flood line. We have only to pay attention to the Federal line. Nate used state data and Trish's survey for references.

Ceilidh Galloway-Kane from Echotone Landscaping has done a new version of the plan made by D&K, taking into account our concerns and developing understanding of the site. The gazebo and pavilion

have been put together into an octagon form, referencing the historical bandstands of VT greens, but as it is at ground level it will be accessible for the Farmer's Market, music and shelter.

James noted that there probably will not be too much needed fill to properly grade the site. There will be a varied hedge of trees and large shrubs along the green side of the road next to Sylvia's house. The chargers will be placed near the power hub which will be near the garage and the pavilion. The Memorial stone and the cherry trees will be at the Still Hill Road side of the park and an entry area at the edge of RT 16 might have a millstone – like the one at the runaway pond rest area further south on RT 16, to commemorate that event. Some play areas for kids near the river with climbing structures might be possible. The placement of the pavilion also allows a kind of back stage for performers. Solar panels could go on the roof of the white building which could also have a restroom (the sewer pipe goes close by) and a storage area for the fire department's barbeque equipment.

Randy asked for proposed costs but they are not available yet. We discussed parking and ways to have more places for cars. Olivia wondered if the proposed trail to the school up through Butch Currier's property could serve as a connection to parking at the school to be used by people at the green.

The table shown in the original proposal from James and Nella shows that we have already available quite a bit of the necessary funding in hand so some of these components can be executed this summer.

Liz moved that James and Nella continue their work and present it to the Planning Committee at the next meeting. Jim seconded the motion. So voted.

Randy wants to present this plan at Town Meeting, so we will have the time to see it again before then. Nella suggests we reach out to the rest of the Planning Commission directly with questions and suggestions, comments and feedback. They will send everyone the plans presented tonight.

Steve suggested that we present this plan to the Fire Department before town meeting and get their feedback, so they know what we are thinking. James and Nella volunteered to go to their meeting on February 6th and bring a drawing to illustrate what is being proposed. Randy will go too. We will also present this to the Selectboard on February 8th or 22nd before the Town Meeting. James and Nella, along with Randy, will present the plan to the town at Town Meeting.

Ceilidh is interested in community feedback and suggested a survey. She said she could hold a meeting to talk with interested people. Olivia will think about how to do this survey and touch base with Ceilidh. Nella will connect them. Working with the school might be a possibility also.

Steve asked about neighbor's input. We should be proactive in communicating this plan. . Randy said any objections to the original plan were mostly about aspects of the RT 16 corridor, not the green.

The next meeting is February 27, 2024. Liz moved to end the meeting at 8:32 PM. Steve seconded. So moved.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Nelson, Secretary