

Town Common Committee
10 25 2017

Minutes

- I. Minutes of August 25, 2017 (no meeting in September 2017)
- II. Old Business
 - a. Status of minutes etc on town website
 - b. Discussion of interest/response from our display at town BBQ
- III. New Business
 - a. Review master list of items discussed by the committee thus far
 - b. Plan power point presentation for Selectmen in anticipation of March 2018 warrant article
 - c. Upcoming meeting dates

Ideas for discussion re: Presentation of recommendations to Selectmen

VISION STATEMENT-As defined

SITE SKETCH TO INCLUDE:

Existing roadways, parking areas, structures, trees, shrubs, monuments, signs, green areas, stone walls, other

PARKING- Create a graphic that shows:

- 1) Existing parking techniques at the Town Hall, Church, War Memorial lawn, Hotel Lot.
- 2) New parking at Hotel Lot

PUBLIC AREAS

Family and Community areas:

- 1) Bandstand or other structure,
- 2) Picnic Area- A designated shaded area with benches and picnic tables,
- 3) Small amphitheater dug into the hillside using granite seats,
- 4) Other

Children areas:

- 1) A flat space that contains several large boulders that is surrounded by wood chips,
- 2) Benches, small tables and chairs,
- 3) Create a tiered area between the parking lot and the library that would establish a level area below a granite block retaining wall with a garden. Install some picnic tables there.
- 4) Other

PLANTINGS on the COMMON

- 1) Create a sketch/map that shows Inventory of existing plantings, and Proposed new plantings (i.e. tree and shrub border along Rte. 149 at Hotel Lot for safety and noise reduction, replace arborvitae at Church front with another evergreen that hides the spotlight there).
- 2) Maintenance of Town Common plantings by a group like a Garden Club and overseen by a Town Common Committee.
- 3) Continue to cull trees inside the Hotel site copse to nurture better views of the surrounding hills and the church steeple.

HARDSCAPES

- 1) Inventory existing Benches, walkways, granite borders
- 2) Proposed new hardscapes (i.e. walkway connecting Town Hall parking lot to Rte. 149 crosswalk, a Tee off Town Hall walkway, granite border at Hotel Lot at top of slope).

SIGNAGE

- 1) Trailhead sign for SPNHF trail at Rangeway Road,

- 2) Belleview Hotel sign marking the spot and describing it's grandeur,
- 3) Parking at proposed new Hotel Lot parking area(s)
- 4) Carry in-Carry out,
- 5) Hours of permitted use,
- 6) Other

WATER

- 1) Available seasonal wells,
- 2) Gravity fed spigot location with tamper-proof spout

ELECTRICITY- costs to bury electric to proposed structure

SEPTIC

- 1) Temporary portable-toilet,
- 2) Seasonal portable toilet

BUILDINGS- Installation of a bandstand type structure on the Hotel Lot that could be:

- A centerpiece for community events
- An architectural representation of our historic and rural character
- A welcome addition that ties in the Hotel Lot with the rest of the Town Common.
- An opportunity for qualified local craftspeople to gather together and construct as a community.

PUBLIC SAFETY

- 1) Proposed crosswalk between church and Town Hall parking area,
- 2) Guardrail or Granite pieces at top of Hotel Lot slope near the road ditch
- 3) Other

STONEWALLS

- 1) Create an opening to abutting/adjacent SPNHF field for a maze or other use.
- 2) Continue to elevate trees at Hotel Lot stone walls

HISTORIC/EDUCATIONAL

- 1) Suggest a cordoned off ongoing archeological dig at Hotel site.
- 2) A weatherproof plaque about the Belleview Hotel mounted at the site.

DEERING COMMUNITY CHURCH- Embrace the principle that the Town Common is enhanced by the elegance and preservation of its two main structures: the Town Hall and the Deering Community Church, and nurture the partnership between the Town and the Deering Community Church.

- 1) Delineate the DCC boundary,
- 2) Recognize and nurture the partnership between the Town and the Church for the good of the Town Common

ARMED SERVICES MEMORIAL AND RECOGNITION AREA- Delineate specific area and limit future monuments to within that area.

CITIZEN MEMORIAL AND RECOGNITION MONUMENTS

- 1) Inventory existing monuments, plantings and hardscapes
- 2) Suggest relocation of some monuments for congruity,
- 3) Ideas for commemorative monuments (engraved pavers, a standard sized plaque for everyone on a shared fixture i.e. framed commemorative plaque that hangs inside Town Hall or framed external plaque outside, benches, trees, tiles, sculpture, light posts as part of a master lighting plan, memorial garden(s).

Future of the Town Common Committee

1) Continue the appointment, by Selectmen, of a "Town Common Committee" as an important group that works with other local associations to generate, oversee, and perpetuate events and actions that specifically utilize the Town Common to promote community.

-Insure that membership of the Town Common Committee includes at least one representative of the Deering Community Church and townspeople from West, South, North and East Deering.

-Scope of the committee is defined by a group consisting of appointed committee members, one Selectmen's representative, one Deering Community Church representative, and one Planning Board member.

2) Suggested scope of the Town Common Committee to include:

- The oversight of all development on the Town Common,
- Seek planning Board and Deering Community Church guidance on all development proposals,
- Be guided by Town of Deering Historic District Ordinance,
- Creation of a protocol that explains the process about how future monuments or plantings installed.