

POPE LAND DESIGN COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING

JANUARY 4, 2024 – 10:00AM (VIA ZOOM)

1. Call to Order. Present: Ray McGuire, Vivian Garfein, Tim Sinclair, Lisa McAuliffe, Abeth Slotnick and Curtis Rand.
2. **Approval of Agenda. So Moved** by V. Garfein, seconded by T. Sinclair and unanimously **Approved**.
3. **Approval of Minutes of December 7, 2023. So Moved** by V. Garfein, seconded by T. Sinclair and unanimously **Approved**.
4. Review of Recreation Plan / Latest Revision Concept Design 6
L. McAuliffe briefly described the Recreation Plan prepared for the Town by Colliers Consulting; it limits the impact to the Historic District; nothing is in the flood plain; the plan is in line with the Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD). T. Sinclair asked about the location of the skate park; L. McAuliffe indicated that the location could be moved and it will be discussed with the Recreation Commission. C. Rand talked about the POCD recreation facilities; Planning & Zoning had hired Colliers to do the plans, then the Pope property was included. C. Rand suggested that, if he has questions, Phil Barlow should be brought into the discussion with L. McAuliffe. A. Slotnick and L. McAuliffe suggested asking P. Barlow to incorporate the recreation plan into Concept Design 6. L. McAuliffe mentioned that Abby Conroy had shared the Colliers Recreation Plan with P. Barlow. L. McAuliffe pointed out that the Recreation Commission has to decide where the skate park will go and that it needs to be in a visible spot. A. Slotnick noted that Concept Design 6 has the recreation on the south side of the hedgerow and the housing on the north side. C. Rand suggested that would be the Concept to take to the IWWC. L. McAuliffe indicated the changes to the recreation area that need to be made include the location of the Pickleball courts, the different parking areas and the multi-purpose field, in addition to the skate park location. All recreation areas have their own parking, making it safe for pedestrians. The storage sheds will stay where they are, south of the tree line. C. Rand suggested that approval of Concept Design 6 should wait until P. Barlow has had a chance to review the Colliers plan and incorporate it into a final design concept.
5. Discussion: Presentation to the IWWC
A request will be sent to Abby Conroy asking to put the presentation on the January 22nd agenda. A. Slotnick and C. Rand suggested that this Committee should see the final plan, before taking it to IWWC.

6. Discussion: Next Steps – A Special Meeting may be scheduled to review the final design plan, when it is ready.

7. Public Comment

There were a number of comments from the people attending, including concerns about adequate parking for both recreation and housing. A question was asked about when there would be a public forum to discuss the plans. A. Slotnick pointed out that these are concepts only, not building plans. R. McGuire noted that this Committee is advisory only, not the final approval; there will be changes made and more opportunities for public comment. T. Sinclair mentioned that the Concept Design will be posted on the Town website, once it is approved. Having an in-person meeting at Town Hall was brought up, along with having a larger discussion about affordable housing. It was pointed out that all meetings are open to the public; no one is excluded. R. McGuire mentioned the presentations that have been made to other Commissions so far. C. Rand and R. McGuire suggested that concerns should be organized into talking points and sent to this Committee; a decision about holding an in-person meeting may be made by the Committee at the meeting in February.

8. **Adjournment. So Moved** by A. Slotnick, seconded by T. Sinclair and unanimously **Approved**.