

WOLFEBORO PUBLIC LIBRARY LANDSCAPING

COMMITTEE MEETING

BRADLEY ROOM

Wednesday, September 8, 2021

Cindy Scott opened the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

In attendance were Kathy Barnard, Joyce Davis, Steve Farley, Jeanne Snowdon, Deborah Long-Smith, Susan Poirier, John Sandeen, Cindy Scott, Sabet Stroman, and Nancy Bell. Also present was Acting Fire Chief, Tom Zotti, Wolfeboro Conservation Commission Chairman, Lenore Clark, and several abutters. Present from Horsley Witten Group was Brian Laverriere, designer, and virtually Brian Kuchar, lead architect, and Kellie Knight, Associate Designer.

Kathy Barnard made a motion to accept the minutes presented. John Sandeen seconded the motion. All present voted in favor.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

Powerpoint presentation by Horsley Witten Group

Brian Laverriere greeted everyone and gave an overview of the Landscape project. He emphasized the importance of low maintenance and the preference for native species. There are possibilities for a phased approach for the project. Horsley Witten has reviewed the site and established both the constraints and the opportunities that are presented by the current layout.

Constraints

The focus of today's meeting was to the constraints that will have to be incorporated into the design. This will include parking as well as plants and will address the outdoor space required for library programs as well as informal space for library patron's use.

Brian focused on the constraints identified.

- Slowing invasive species
- Utilities lines
- Snow storage and removal
- Wetlands transitioning to opportunities
- Safety access for proximity to South Main Street for Fire Department access.

Abutters raised issues of small animals in the brush area between their residence and the library. The possibility of deer was discussed and deemed to be a strong possibility based on the experience at the town garden.

Abutters asked a question about changes that might be made in the drainage or storm water runoff. At this point, there do not seem to be any plans that will cause significant changes.

Opportunities

Connectivity

- How people will navigate the space.
- Directional flow of pedestrians and vehicles
- Addition of trees to provide shade in the parking lot
- Softening of the entrance corridor

Future improvements along South Main Street could include perennial gardens and ornamental grasses

Wetland species will be reused and incorporated into the final design to enhance the Outdoor Classroom area.

The Open Lawn area will have native features. DPW has extra granite which may be available for library use. There are also large rocks that have been stockpiled which could be reused.

A question was raised about the possibility of future sidewalk placement, but this will depend upon the town and state plans for South Main Street, so there was no information available.

The finished design will have three sections:

- Formal Front
- Transitional Landscape
- Natural Woodland

Upcoming Meetings

The Design Charette is scheduled on Tuesday, September 21. The Morning Charette will focus on prepared design ideas:

- 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Arrival and Setup
- 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. Stakeholder Input (Virtual and In-person)
- 10:30 – 11:00 a.m. Lunch Break
- 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Open House – Public Welcome

The afternoon Design Charette will focus on advancing design materials:

- 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Production Hours
- 2:30 - 3:00 p.m. Material Pin Up for Stakeholder discussion
- 3:00 – 5:00 p.m. Production Hours
- 5:00 – 5:45 p.m. Dinner Break and Preparation for presentation
- 5:45 – 6:30 p.m. Presentation of Design Materials (Stakeholders)
Virtual and In-person

The Public Charette on Thursday, September 30 will be virtual and probably in the evening.

The meeting ended with Susan Poirier making the motion to adjourn, seconded by Cindy Scott and approved by all present at 3:00 p.m.

A site walk for anyone interested in participating was conducted following the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Bell

Minutes are unapproved until voted on by the Landscaping Committee