

MINUTES
MAYOR'S BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE ON
THE SAGAMORE CREEK LAND
7:30 A.M. – Thursday, August 18, 2015
Portsmouth Elks Lodge – 500 Jones Avenue

1. CALL TO ORDER:

At 7:30 a.m., a Sitewalk was held at the Sagamore Creek Land and the meeting convened at the Portsmouth Elks Lodge at the conclusion of the site walk.

Members Present:

Councilor Eric Spear, Chair

Councilor Chris Dwyer

John Mikolajcyk, Resident

Lennie Mullaney, School Board Representative

Alison Pyott, Resident

Kory Sirmaian, Recreation Board Representative

Allison Tanner, Conservation Commission Representative

David Moore, Community Development Director, City Manager Designee

Staff Present:

Al Pratt, Water Resources Manager

Juliet Walker, Transportation Planner

Peter Britz, Environmental Planner

The Blue Ribbon Committee on Sagamore Creek Land met on site at the fenced entrance to the Sagamore Creek Parcel at Jones Avenue. The Chair reviewed the purpose of the meeting and the plan for the sitewalk, which was to discuss as a group proposed elements of the eventual Master Plan at key locations of the site and to move the meeting to the Elks Lodge to resume the meeting to discuss next steps.

At the sitewalk the group viewed the informal parking area and entrance at Jones Avenue, walked along the Incinerator Road, viewed the entrance to the cap, and walked a trail segment to the waterfront east of the cap, and then walked along the trail to the Elks lodge. Along the way the group discussed proposed elements of the master plan, which included: activate landfill in order to invite passive activities (remove fence; must be done in coordination with DES); introduce formalized parking area that minimizes environmental intrusion; improve pedestrian linkages; improve trail system (create boardwalks to protect trails, drain improvements to prevent washout and degradation); improve accessibility of trail system and cap for universal access; add signage inviting public; add interpretative signage; bike storage parking; and introduction of water access point for non-motorized watercraft.

At the Elks Lodge, the group discussed the recently completed Bike and Pedestrian Plan and the related recommendations nearby the Sagamore Creek Landfill. In addition the group discussed, the access to the landfill cap and the parking area configuration. It was determined that additional staff work would be completed on these two issues prior to the next meeting.

2. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.