



813 Shore Road
Northport, Maine 04849

Phone (207) 338-0751

Notes of Governance Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 5, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.

Zoom Only

The Governance Committee met on Thursday, October 5, 2023 at 4:00.

Attendance: Members: Judy Metcalf (Chair); Beverly Crofoot; Elaine Moss; Dan Webster
Member of the Public: Christopher Maseychik

1. Continue review and development of communication recommendations to address encroachments on Village property.

The discussion re draft letter was deferred until the next meeting, which will be held on Thursday, October 19th at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Recent encroachments were discussed:

Five foot strip of land owned by Village from Main Street to Griffin Street was reviewed. This strip is not laid out on the Wesleyan Grove Map (The Greenlaw Plan) as a walkway and the purpose of the retention of the 5 feet is not expressed in the deed. Nonetheless, it is owned by the Village and a newly planned rock wall area should not be built on it consistent with the Preservation of Public Lands Policy.

The Committee expressed gratitude to the Cressey family for removing the fence which was permissively constructed on a portion of Bayview Park in light of the Overseers' statement of intention to terminate the license (a termination document should be recorded at the registry so that the public record is clear).

The listing of the Butters Cottage for sale is in error to the extent it describes the area in front of the cottage as "a shared front lawn." The realtor has been notified and follow up is required because the listing has not been changed.

2. Commence review of existing ordinances and policies to assure consistent with current legal requirements and enhance clarity

The Committee decided that it would start its review with the Fire Ordinance last reviewed and adopted in 2018. Elaine will review all Maine statutes referenced in existing ordinance to

determine if any changes in them warrant changes in the ordinance. The public is encouraged to share their ideas.

3. Commence discussion of developing communications and soliciting public input on design review recommendations

The Committee agreed that the real goal of any Design Review process is really a Design Resource tool which would assist in creating a database of such information. The Committee agreed that developing such a resource might not be within the mission of the Governance Committee and recommends the appointment of an ad hoc committee to develop that resource if it is the will of the overseers to do so. Several members of the Governance Committee expressed an interest in participating. Members of the public concerned about design “review” concepts would be encouraged to join.

Other business:

The status of the proposed acceptance of the perennial garden was asked about. The Committee reviewed that the President was asked by the Overseers at their September meeting to speak with the donor to determine the current status of the proposed gift.

The meeting adjourned at 4:24.

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 19, 2023 at 4:00 p.m. by Zoom only.