

**TOWN OF HADDAM
HIGGANUM COVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
COMMUNITY CENTER
7 CANDLEWOOD HILL ROAD, HIGGANUM, CT 06441
THURSDAY, 8 FEBRUARY 2024
UNAPPROVED MINUTES
*Subject to Approval by the Commission***

ATTENDANCE

X	Peter Baird
A	Sue DeCarli
X	Dorothy Gillespie
X	Tim McCane (Arrived 6:07 p.m.)
X	Ed Schwing, Chairman
X	Tim Teran
X	Dante Ursini
X	Bill Warner, AICP, Town Planner
X	Leon Mularski, Zoning Enforcement Officer
X	Bunny Hall Batzner, Recording Clerk

1. Call to Order

Mr. Schwing, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Public Comment

Mr. Warner introduced Mr. Mularski, Zoning Enforcement Officer. Starting in March Mr. Mularski will be the acting town planner while Mr. Warner is on a leave of absence. Mr. Warner reported that he and Mr. Mularski met with Lee Hunter and walked the Cove and been brought up to date regarding it. Mr. Warner also reported that Mr. Mularski is an architect and has a lot of property management experience.

Mr. Ursini asked Mr. Warner when he would be leaving. Mr. Warner stated 1 April 2024.

3. Discussion

a. Signs

Mr. Ursini reported he had engaged Paul Costello, design engineer, who has designed maps for several places in southern Connecticut. Mr. Ursini stated hopefully in two weeks there should be some information for the Committee to review. Mr. Ursini passed around a pamphlet of a trail map and information for Canfield-Meadow Woods Nature Preserve, Essex; and stated a pamphlet for the Cove is something that can be put together down the road.

Mr. Teran stated the Committee probably needs a basic map of the Cove, especially once parking is placed on the Rossi property. Mr. Ursini and Mrs. Gillespie agreed.

Mr. Warner asked Mr. Ursini what he meant by engaged him. Mr. Ursini stated he met with Mr. Costello and provided him with information to start making a map for the Committee. Mr. Warner asked if Mr. Costello would be paid with Mr. Ursini stating yes, \$50 an hour. A brief discussion followed regarding the protocol for spending town funds.

Mr. Ursini stated he will get the information together and forward to the Committee and that he believes this could be a resource for the future kiosk(s). Mr. Teran stated perhaps as Mr. Ursini puts the proposal together it could be one way of making it more efficient. Mr. Baird suggested Swan Hill be included on the map.

Mr. Ursini passed around samples from two companies for the kiosk (informational display) and believes these should be evaluated by Mr. Schwing, Lisa Malloy, Director, Haddam Historical Society, and Steve Gephard. Mr. Ursini stated the samples are very durable. Mr. Ursini stated he reached out to the vendor who generated the boards in front of the library and they cost approximately \$600. Mr. Ursini stated after looking at everything – graphic design, creating, and installation of the sign(s) – it probably would cost about \$1,000 per kiosk.

Mrs. Gillespie stated there was discuss at a previous meeting about taking a walk at the Cove for placement ideas. Mr. Ursini stated yes, and that perhaps Mr. Schwing would like to arrange the walk and again, contact Mrs. Malloy to see when she would be available so she could attend as well. Mr. Teran stated perhaps the placement of a stake with flagging ribbon or painted top would provide a visual of how many plaques are being considered as well as kiosks. Mr. Ursini agreed. Mr. Schwing stated he would talk to Mrs. Malloy and Mr. Gephard, but noted that the Committee will need to wait until the funding comes in.

Mr. Ursini asked if it would be possible to place an historical sign (similar to the one at the Haddam Jail) on the road to the entry to the Cove, especially since it is an historic site. Mr. Ursini stated most entries to any park have one sign simply indicating what it is. The welcome sign and all the information is located within the site where people will park. If not, then something simple should be considered. Mr. Warner indicated yes.

Mr. Schwing recapped: couple of signs, placement, take a walk, possibly an entrance sign.

Mr. Ursini stated perhaps this could be packaged together and covered by state funding. Mr. Warner stated signs are not covered. Mr. Schwing stated Mike Farina, Gateway Commission, had approached him regarding possible funding for signage. Mr. Schwing will contact him. Mr. Teran stated Mr. Farina had also spoken to him about it and suggested he (Farina) might help draft a proposal especially seeing he would know what the Gateway would be looking for.

b. Bike Rack Placement/Design

Regarding the letter to the Park and Rec (P&R) Commission, Mr. Baird stated while at the Board of Selectmen's (BOS) meeting, P&R indicated they had a line item for bike racks in Higganum Center. Mr. Baird stated there is a steady stream of bicyclists traveling Route 154 and Haddam does not cater to them at all. Mr. Baird stated bicyclists spend a great deal of money on their bikes and spend money in town and there is no reason why Haddam should not support this type of tourism. Mr. Ursini stated that could be a starting point for a bike race or rally. Mr. Baird agreed. Mr. Baird stated his letter was not addressing the Cove, but rather the Center. (Copy of letter is on file with the minutes in the Town Clerk's Office and the Land Use Office, Exhibit A).

Mr. Teran stated if a rack is created perhaps the same design could be used elsewhere. Mr. Baird showed a photo of a zip code bike rack in Massachusetts noting that people pose by these racks and it's a center piece for a town. Mr. Baird also showed another bike rack that comes with a water fountain and a kiosk (showing where you can eat, nearest bike shop, recreational locations, etc.). Mr. Baird stated it is a low-cost issue that would have some payback if located appropriately. Mr. Teran stated if allowed, perhaps a sponsorship to have information included in the kiosk could pay for the bike rack.

Mr. Schwing asked Mr. Baird if he had received any response from P&R with Mr. Baird responding he had heard from David Law, P&R member, who had indicated P&R were considering the installation of bike racks. Mr. Baird suggested to Mr. Law that they walk Higganum Center but has not heard back. Mr. Teran asked if Mr. Baird would follow up with Mr. Law and report back to the Committee. Mr. Baird stated yes, as he doesn't want to see something that doesn't fit the character of the Cove. Mr. Baird stated P&R have money for two bike racks – the Center and the Cove. Mrs. Gillespie stated P&R needs to speak to the Committee. Mr. Schwing stated it could be at the Rossi property. Mr. Baird stated it is something that needs to be discussed.

c. DEEP Funding/RFP

Mr. Warner reported he received approval to the budget amendment as explained at the last meeting. Jeff Jacobson, P.E., Nathan L. Jacobson & Associates (NLJA), is putting together a contract and NLJA will retain VHB to perform the environmental work (test what is located under the slab as well as the concrete) to decide what has to be pulled out. NLJA will come up with three different schemes of how to grade it down towards the water and once those are complete, Mr. Mularski will bring the proposals to the Committee for review. Once the review is complete, NLJA will go through with the permitting and by that time Mr. Warner should be back from his leave of absence. Mr. Warner stated the nice thing about the project is material removed from the flood plain will allow some refill of the area (less than what was removed) and the installation of decking over some of the area. Mr. Warner stated NLJA's contract will be sent to DEEP for review; and once approval is received, NLJA can begin work.

Mr. Schwing stated Mrs. DeCarli had indicated there might be some large pieces of granite under the slab. Mr. Warner stated it is in the contract that once the slab is pulled, an evaluation of what's under there will be conducted. Mr. Warner stated Mrs. DeCarli has photos of the area showing a walk out basement with windows on the side (basement probably not filled with clean material).

d. Meeting with BOS Update

Mr. Schwing reported he had not received a response from the BOS regarding a meeting. Mr. Baird stated he had not seen an agenda. Mr. Schwing stated the agenda normally comes out on Friday and will notify the Committee Friday afternoon the status of the meeting. Mr. Schwing asked that everyone be in attendance. Mr. Warner reported the Committee is on the agenda. The BOS meeting is scheduled for Monday, 12 February 2024, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall, 21 Field Park Drive.

4. Approval of Minutes

Correction to the 11 January 2024 minutes, page 1, header – change “Janaury” to “January”.

MOTION: Tim Teran motioned to approve the 11 January 2024 minutes as amended. Tim McCane second. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Old Business

The Committee discussed the following items: **Event at Cove** – Mr. Schwing stated there's interest in conducting another event at the Cove and will probably take place mid-June. Further discussion on this can take place during the March meeting. Mr. Teran stated something that should be considered is potentially broadening the scope of geology and the railroad. Mr. Teran suggested Committee members think about different things to make it interesting and discuss it further at the next meeting. Bob Wintsch, a geologist, was mentioned with Mr. Schwing noting a location for his presentation would need to be selected; perhaps the turbine overlook, if completed and he can discuss the glacial potholes. Mrs. Gillespie suggested if Mr. Wintsch were not available perhaps the former state geologist would be interest in attending. Mrs. Gillespie talked about economic development based on geology (mill used water power). A brief discussion followed regarding the waterpower. Mr. Schwing talked about a visit to the Scovil buildings and the pulleys and shafts that uses the waterpower that remained in the buildings. **Graffiti** – Mr. Ursini had sent photos of a wall and the trestle bridge and abutments (copies on file with the minutes in the Town Clerk's Office and the Land Use Office, Exhibit B – 3 pages). Mr. Ursini stated the removal of the paint should be easy enough and that he has a call into the Valley Railroad to see about cleaning up the trestle bridge and abutments. Mr. McCane suggested DEEP EnCon (Environmental Conservation Police) be contacted and made aware of the situation. Mrs. Gillespie spoke in regard to a sense of pride – Pride of Place. Mrs. Gillespie also spoke in regard to Valley Railroad being a part of the Cove and the placement of an interpretative sign in that area. Mr. Ursini will speak to the railroad's representative(s). Mr. McCane stated the parcel by the river is private property. Mrs. Gillespie stated she was thinking by the trestle. Mr. McCane stated the road going down to the river from where the town purchased his property and to the river is private property. Mr. Warner stated he believes the town has access.

Discussion followed regarding whether there is deeded access across the property and whether the road is a town road. Mr. Teran asked if Mr. McCane could copy it and send it to the Committee. Mr. McCane stated the graffiti should be removed from the wall and then rip rap be placed in front of it. **Drainage Issue along Road** – Reviewed another photo of ice where water drains down the road (copy on file with the minutes in the Town Clerk’s Office and Land Use Dept., Exhibit C). Mr. Warner stated Mr. Hunter will be submitting a proposal to dig a trench and install perforated pipe and stone. **Benches** – Mr. Teran stated the new benches look great, but that they need to be secured (currently, they are chained). **Eagle Scouts** – Mr. Ursini stated they will be releasing at least \$1,000 once Liam turns 18 as he was unable to get the money from the GoFundMe. They would like to put the kiosk in but are waiting until the Committee selects the vendor. Once a vendor is selected, they’ll install the kiosk. **Miscellaneous Projects** - Mr. Warner stated Mr. Hunter will put in a proposal for the drainage; start the turbine overlook (graded out, clean up along the edges, reseed it, stone dust on top); and create a sitting area. Mr. Warner also stated Durham Fence is ordering the fencing material and should start in a week or two. Mr. McCane asked about the installation of a set of stairs down to the turbine. Mr. Ursini, Mr. Teran and Mr. Baird felt that would be a liability issue. Mr. Warner stated they do need to figure out a way to clean out the turbine area. Mr. McCane stated there are a set of stairs at a place call The Nook in Cape Cod (using his phone, showed a photo of the site). **Upper Ruins** – Stainless rail on the steep area. Mr. Hunter will provide a quote. The Committee talked about consistency within the Cove. **Railing at Overlook** - Mr. Teran asked if the rust at the joints will go away. Mr. Warner stated Mr. Hunter is already working on it.

Higganum Cove Preserve Action Plan – Mr. Schwing stated this would be a good document to bring to the BOS. Mr. Warner stated there are P&R people who feel the Cove should fall under P&R. Mr. Baird stated based on what he’s heard at the BOS meetings P&R is feeling a lot of pressure because they’re having difficulty maintaining what they have – the playground, potholes on the soccer field, etc. Mrs. Gillespie stated she feels the Cove is a completely different type of recreational site; and especially due to its historic nature, it deserves special attention. The Committee does not want P&R to have control over the Cove.

Mr. Ursini quickly reviewed the document: **Public Comment Meeting** – Will there be an opportunity for the public to comment or will the Committee make the decisions. Mr. Schwing and Mr. Baird stated the meetings are open to the public and if they were interested, they would attend. Mr. Warner also stated it’s on Facebook. Mr. Teran stated depending on how the BOS meeting goes, the Committee may want to publish some of the document on the Haddam website. **Cove/HES Attendant** – Mr. Warner stated the position will be advertised in March (seasonal position). Mr. Warner noted that Public Works does not shovel/salt the walkway at HES and this may be something the attendant will need to attend to. A brief discussion followed regarding volunteers to supplement (at this time the Committee was not favorable on this matter). **Overlook – Partial Platform Cover** – Mr. Warner stated he felt it would be very nice to put in a half rood over the overlook noting that the footings are already installed. **Power Needs/Implementation Options** – Mr. Ursini stated underground power would be expensive, but you could go pole to pole. Mr. Ursini also stated the question is whether the Committee wants to install power or not or is it something in the future. Mr. Schwing stated a temporary solution would be to bring in a portable generator as needed. This can be discussed in the future. **Benches at Overlook** – Mr. Ursini had previously emailed a photo of a four person bench located at the Haddam Meadows (copy on file with the minutes at the Town Clerk’s Office and Land Use Office, Exhibit D). Mrs. Gillespie stated she would like to see a different color. Mr. Warner stated the benches along the Farmington River Canal Trail all have a plaque “Donated by”; and perhaps with the exposure of the Cove maybe people would be willing to donate for the purchase of a bench. The Committee agreed benches should be added. Mr. Teran stated this should be added to the list when scoping out areas for signs and kiosks. Mr. Teran suggested the Committee may want to conduct a campaign for the benches when the walk is held in June. Mr. Schwing suggested the people who provided their emails at the last walk be contacted and asked for their support at the town meeting. **Pollinator Garden** – Mr. Ursini asked for an update on the Rockfall grant. Mr. Warner stated the Committee does not need to go to bid when using state funding under \$10,000 and DEEP agreed to \$8,500; and that he had applied to the Rockfall Foundation for a \$10,000 grant. Mr. Warner stated before he leaves a design/build RFP will be written and it will be sent to local nurseries, garden centers, and landscapers. Mr. Ursini asked if there is extra money, could the overlook, specifically the area where

stairs come down to the second level, be included. Mr. Warner stated the area has been seeded and would like to wait to see how it looks before contemplating the installation of plantings. **Rossi Parking** – Mr. Teran asked if a basic sign and kiosk could be included as well a placeholder for the maps. Mr. Ursini suggested the Committee should wait to see what the outcome of the site development. Perhaps temporary signage could be used in the interim. Mrs. Gillespie noted the Cove parking lot is full. Mr. Ursini stated it appears as if Mr. Hunter will be taking care of the pathways and removing some material in the foundations. Mr. Warner stated yes, the site was walked. **Removal of Concrete Slab** – This was added from Mr. Warner's notes. **Falls Parking** – Mr. Teran asked the status of the installation of guardrail and barriers along the falls' turnoff area. Mr. Warner stated this is in the state funding. Mr. Warner stated most of the people he sees parked there are local people; and noted that the guardrail will be controversial as the "No Parking" signs that were installed were pulled out (were reinstalled). A brief discussion followed regarding enforcement. (A copy of Higganum Cove Preserve Action Plan is on file with the minutes in the Town Clerk's Office and Land Use Dept., Exhibit E – 4 pages).

6. Adjournment

MOTION: Tim Teran motion to adjourn. Tim McCane second. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bunny Hall Batzner
Bunny Hall Batzner
Recording Clerk

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 14 March 2024.

Dear Haddam Parks and Recreation Commissioners

We know your recent budget had line items for bike racks in Higganum Center, possibly both at the Cove and in the town center too.

On a summer weekend in Higganum, it's not at all unusual for 100+ bicyclists bike through Higganum Center. They sometimes stop at the market for a quick drink or maybe a rest in the Green, but we really haven't done much to encourage them visit stores and sites in Higganum— no visible bike racks or bike repair stations, water sources or signs encouraging them to visit the Cove or where they could eat or get a drink.

Many communities in Massachusetts and in Connecticut along the long distance bike paths on the Farmington Canal or Airline Trails have done a lot to encourage bicyclists to stop, shop and relax. They have put up rest areas for bicyclists and signs and maps showing where they could go hiking or visit a local site.

A bike rack that is hidden or unattractive really won't help us achieve our goals, but I think something that is well designed and very visible, on a revamped Rossi Property or right in front of the Higganum Market, could become an identifying marker for the town, encourage bicyclists to stop— especially if we put a self-service bike repair station next to it.

We wanted to show you an example of what Massachusetts does in small towns for bike racks. These racks have become identifying markers for their towns— People even pose for pictures by them!

These sorts of bike repair stations are also increasingly being seen, often connected to a water fountain or spigot where bicyclists refill water bottles or can check a billboard with information about local services and restaurants or trails. An example of these bike repair stations, which include a bike pump, mounting rack and basic tools, is below. Many communities advertise that they have these.

We are happy to discuss or come to your next meeting— let me know.

Peter

COVE - 8 FEB 2004
BIKE RACK PLACEMENT
& DESIGN
EXHIBIT A

Options to address these problems

Dan Ursini <goeey58@comcast.net>

Thu 2/8/2024 2:03 AM

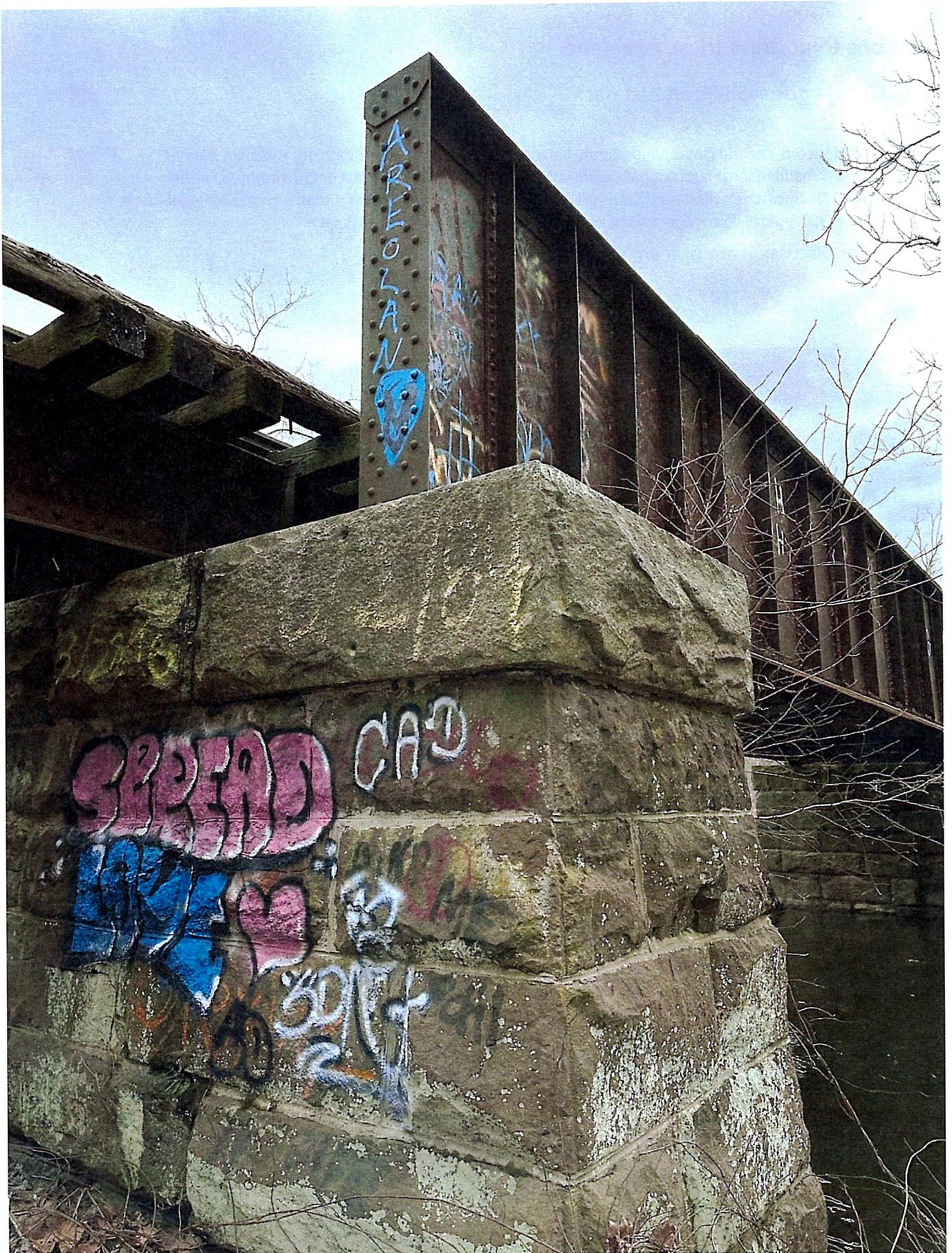
To:bairdp@mac.com <bairdp@mac.com>;Bunny Batzner <commisionsec@haddam.org>;William Warner <townplanner@haddam.org>;eschwing68@comcast.net <eschwing68@comcast.net>;Dorothy Gillespie <dgillespie01@comcast.net>;timteran15@gmail.com <timteran15@gmail.com>;timothyfordf350@gmail.com <timothyfordf350@gmail.com>;ddecarli11@comcast.net <ddecarli11@comcast.net>

Hi All , For discussion at our team meeting ...

Dan



COVE - 8 FEB 2004
OLD BUSINESS
EXHIBIT B - 3 PHOTOS







COVE - 8 FEB 2024
OLD BUSINESS
EXHIBIT C

Bench option from Haddam Meadows

Dan Ursini <goeey58@comcast.net>

Wed 2/7/2024 4:25 PM

To:eschwing68@comcast.net <eschwing68@comcast.net>;William Warner <townplanner@haddam.org>;M J Gillespie <dgillespie01@comcast.net>;Bunny Batzner <commisionsec@haddam.org>;bairdp@mac.com <bairdp@mac.com>; timteran15@gmail.com <timteran15@gmail.com>;timothyfordf350@gmail.com <timothyfordf350@gmail.com>; ddecarli11@comcast.net <ddecarli11@comcast.net>

FYI.... Nice and comfortable .. 4 person bench. Hard composite natural look with HM Park name inscribed in the bench.



COVE - 8 FEBRUARY
 HIGGANUM COVE PRESERVE
 ACTION PLAN
 EXHIBIT D

Higganum Cove Preserve Action Plan

Higganum Cove Committee/Board of Selectman

1. Higganum Cove designated and protected as a preserve permanently
2. HCC made permanent commission
3. HCC established as a Commission modeled after the Parks and Rec responsibilities and authority to make Rules and Regulations enforceable by current town ordinance
4. Yearly commitment of BOS to fund Cove/HES Attendant critical to protecting HCP and enforcement of Rules and Regulations.
5. Haddam residents engaged (Cove Public Comments Meeting?) on Cove Development plans.
6. BOS meeting February 12, 2024 to discuss items 1-5 for agreement and implementation

Cove Rules & Enforcement

1. Completed Cove Rules / Welcome to Higganum Cove Sign in concert with Town Of Haddam Parks and Recreation Ordinance
2. Design/Create/Install Welcome and Cove Rules sign underway
3. Establish Community Attendant with authority to distribute parking tickets, engage tow truck operators, and escalation to State Police as warranted as well as being recourse for town residents and guests needing guidance at the HC Preserve. VFF & approved volunteers possible to assist.
4. Determine, if necessary, other controls for Cove Preserve overuse (State resident parking fee's, town residents dedicated parking locations, peak season usage plan.

Funding

1. Current Town Of Haddam funding balance: \$37,715

Committee approved Projects for remaining balance: Turbine Viewing Platform/excess material removed from ruins & pathway created, Welcome/Rules Sign creation, Split Rail Fence: replace black chain link and install around overlook, Stainless steel rail upper ruins trail and to the left of turbine viewing platform. Total Spend: \$26,122, \$11,593 remaining.

2. State Of Connecticut Grant \$280,000. Bidding Proposal underway for Design and Engineering costs for the removal of compromised cement platform and return area to a natural environment.
3. Private Grants - RockFall, Other
4. Local Businesses
5. Town Fundraisers - See Haddam Town Library Brick Memorials \$100 Each

HCP Overlook & Multi Use Options

Design, Specs, Bid Process, Acceptance and Town Of Haddam Funding Complete

1. Construction complete.
2. Final Railing Design (Stainless steel cable for clear viewing) and installation complete
3. Partial Platform Cover options
4. Power needs and implementation options
5. Final Platform floor material after base material settling.
6. Bench/sitting options on Overlook
7. Wild flower plantings around the Overlook

COVE - 8 FEB 2024
OLD BUSINESS
HIGGANUM COVE PRESERVE
ACTION PLAN
EXHIBIT E - 4 PAGES

Upper Ruins Trail & Flower Garden

1. Continued enhancements and maintenance of hiking trail, river shoreline, vegetation.
2. Trail Signage/Hiking Only
3. Flower Garden Specs
4. Rockfall Grant/Town Funding for Flower Garden
5. Flower Garden Bidding process for creation/implementation
6. Flower Garden on going enhancements and maintenance

Cove Parking

Entry Parking

1. Confirmed hump in parking lot is ledge and demolition debris.
2. Redesign for easier parking/remove ledge/material. Utilization of State Funding .

Rossi Parking

1. Finalize temporary parking area boundaries
2. Relocate dumpsters
3. Town to level and solidify parking surface with road millings
4. Visibly mark off parking area boundaries/spaces
5. Install Pedestrian Caution signs on roadway
7. Final design and permanent boundaries will be determined by approved site development.

Falls Parking

1. Install Barriers at Falls turnoff once Rossi Parking lot complete

Foundation/Turbine Overlook

1. Build elevated natural platform in front of the current fence
2. Straighten/Adjust/add to current fence/rail for safe viewing with tie in to stainless steel rail
3. Install Kiosk for original Factory/Turbine information
4. Transition to ruin pathways

Signage/Information Kiosks

1. Work with Historical Society, DEEP (Steve Gephard), HCC to develop a plan and display options for Cove information to be shared
2. Identify Kiosks base manufacture, Graphic Designers and material for signage creation
3. Identify Grants for Kiosks implementation
4. Package all HCP Kiosks and additional signage requirements to be Funded by State Grant.
5. Cove Logo Developed for Kiosks, Signs, Town Communications (involve town residents)

River Trail

1. Continually observe the trail for any major erosion conditions to be resolved
2. Enhance the 2 major River Trail Overlooks with leveling material, benches and kiosks
3. Work with Haddam Eagle Scouts Project at First Overlook (Phase 1 complete)
4. Ensure pathway is level/firm from new HCP Overlook to first River Trail Overlook
5. Determine options and partnership with Valley RR for removal of Graffiti on train trestel

Cove Lawn/Foundation Pathways

1. Define main Lawn area for viewing events on Overlook Platform.
2. Add small border flower gardens/natural plantings
3. Level Lawn were there are small holes, depressions, rough grass clumps, etc
4. Enhance Seating on current stones and ruins areas were safe
5. Remove material piled up against foundation rocks to be level with current center of foundation pathways
6. Create pathway through center of foundations with side areas grass.

Kayak Launch Enhancements

1. Create easier access to the Cove River Branch (part of cement slab removal)
2. Yearly Spring maintenance of Cove branch after Winter storms/Spring floods
3. Evaluate Kayak rack storage options
4. Provide Kayaking options/map for users

Cove Wetlands Overlook

1. Identify design options to create a deck viewing platform over current concrete ruins.
2. To be created/installed as part of the removal of the large concrete slab with State Funding

Removal of Large Concrete Slab and Return Area to a Natural Environment

1. Engineering Assessment and Design
2. Test Soils
3. Procure Environmental and Flood Permits/Certifications
4. Identify Specs and Design requirements for Bid Proposal and funding requirements:
 - Remove concrete slabs, walls, compromised ruins
 - Naturally grade area to surroundings down to new Kayak launch area utilizing up to 20,000 cubic feet of clean material
 - Create New Kayak launch area

Higganum Cove Committee Completed Accomplishments

1. Installed Higganum Cove Welcome Sign/Information Boards, Pet Waste & Trash Stations.
2. Created Upper Ruins Overlook with 2 benches
3. Created the Upper Ruins Hiking Trail and Observation areas. This included major tree and vegetation clearing, Rock walls, Trail Construction and River front access.
4. Major Graffiti Removal throughout the park ruins, turbine foundation, falls rocks
5. Created award winning Higganum Cove Master Plan with Kent & Frost Associates
6. Created Kayak Launch area and pathway
7. Major Cleanup and debris removal along the Higganum River Branch through the Cove
8. River Trail upgrade/enhancements: Fallen Trees and brush removal, widening of trail pathway were needed, cleanup of large dumped debris along the trail and river front and the creation of 3 River Trail Overlooks of the Cove
9. Large Dead Tree removal (12) and cleanup of upper pathways
10. Creation of Falls/River viewing corridors for future Cove Overlook and pathway down from Park entry area.
11. Applied for and received \$280,000 State Matching Grant (3/1) for future use
12. Worked with Haddam Historical Society and former DEEP staff for town tour and presentation of the Cove industrial history and environmental life.
13. Designed, created and completed the construction of a multi use HCP Overlook.
14. Developed on going relationships with several town organizations for cleanup/maintenance actions, projects and support.
15. Split Rail Fence installed along 80ft of pathway into the park