SOUTH PORTLAND OPEN SPACE IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES

May 27, 2020

Present: Sharon Newman, Patti Smith, Dan Hogan, Karl Coughlin, Barbara Dee, Kathi Perkins, Richard Rottkov, Justin Barker, Susan Chase

The minutes from the May 11, 2020 OSIC meeting were approved.

Milan’s questions about the tiering spreadsheet were reviewed as follows:

1. Casco Bay Bridge area was designated Tier 2 because it is not a park.
2. The OSIC did not discuss the Boothby Avenue parcel as a potential pocket park. This parcel as outlined in the Tier spreadsheet notes is of value only to abutters.
3. The South Portland Community Center was left on the Tiering spreadsheet in error and it has since been removed.

The ad hoc Land Bank Revision committee request and the Acquisition Committee request have been edited by Planning (Justin Barker) and sent to Milan Nevajda last week for final approval before the OSIC can send the requests to Scott Morelli. Justin will send the current drafts to Sharon. At the OSIC’s request Sharon will send an email to Milan requesting a quick signoff on these documents so the committees can be established.

Discussion focused on the timing of the sale of a municipal property especially if the property has major perceived value by the neighborhood, such as Mahoney or Hamlin Schools. Per the ordinance municipal properties must be tired by the South Portland Conservation Commission before being transferred, sold or developed. Justin recently provided a draft of the proposed Tiering ordinance, which uses language directly from the Open Space Plan. He will edit the draft, get it reviewed by Corporation Counsel, and send it back to the OSIC for review.

The public comment process required as part of the Tiering process was discussed. The Zoom forum will be scheduled for June 30 at 6:30. Patti and Susan will write a press release for local newspapers. The notice will also go on the City’s home page,
Open Space and Conservation Commission webpages. Justin will send the current correct copy to OSIC members; Barbara will send it to Alice Kelley for placement on the Open Space webpage.

Sharon’s memo regarding easements will be sent to Scott Morelli with a request to distribute to City Councilors.

The next meeting is Wednesday June 3, 2020 4-5:30 PM. Justin will set up a Zoom meeting link.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barbara Dee, Secretary