City of Waltham



Fernald Use Committee June 26, 2017 Minutes of the meeting

Chairman McLaughlin called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Attendance: Councillor Darcy, Councillor Rourke, Chairman McLaughlin.

Councillor Darcy made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 5, 2017 meeting. Motion was adopted on a voice vote.

1. Request – Councillor Darcy

Invite Federal, State, local delegation, and the Mayor to discuss the establishment of a national museum at the Fernald property dedicated to the history of care to the developmentally disabled.

Councillor Darcy presented a power point slide show detailing the history of the Fernald property. Specifically, it's standing as the oldest school for the developmentally disabled in the western hemisphere. Councillor Darcy suggested a need to review all the buildings currently on the Fernald site, as well as a complete tree inventory of the property. Councillor Rourke said a grand plan is needed for the long term planning on this site, as well as for the success of this initiative. The City may need to partner with other groups and institutions in order to be successful. Council President LeBlanc said the City has a responsibility to do this right on this property. President LeBlanc also felt the City would need some assistance with resources to achieve this initiative. President LeBlanc mentioned that there are currently historic initiative that are not getting the level of financial funding needed for completion. Councillor Darcy moved to hear from an off committee member. Motion was adopted on a voice vote. State Representative Thomas Stanley appeared before the committee. Representative Stanley said this seemed to be good idea. He said he was willing to assist in the efforts of securing State and Federal funding. Councillor Darcy made a motion to table the matter. Motion was adopted on a voice vote.

Councillor Darcy moved to take the matter of the Western Greenway from the table. Motion was adopted on a voice vote. Chairman McLaughlin noted that the Fernald site walk thru that took place on Saturday June 24th was successful. Roughly thirty citizens took part in the tour. Councillor Darcy thanked the Waltham Land Trust for all their efforts up at the Fernald.

Councillor Darcy made a motion to adjourn. Motion was adopted on a voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas J. Magno Clerk – Fernald Use Committee