

Open Space Committee

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

Minutes

- I. Attendance and Approval of March 29, 2023 minutes: Present were members Lucy Abisalih, Dawn Ackerman, Mary Glennon, and Sandy Venner and Martin Hanlon as volunteer. Motion made and seconded by Lucy and Dawn and voted to approve March 29, 2023 minutes.
- II. Redevelopment of Fields at Emery Street: The results of the community survey (over 350 responses) and the summary drafted by Lucy were sent to the Select Board and posted at the Town website. The item will be on the May 8th BOS agenda with Lucy and others, if possible, attending. Mary will develop a draft presentation of the survey results, including aerial views of the property, to be reviewed at the next OSC meeting. Based on the discussion last meeting with George Lay, Lucy will see if she can determine the status of the former Wallace Boatyard. It is believed any discussion of the survey results and plans for Emery Street could guide a larger plan for use of other Town owed property.
- III. Next Steps to Protect Town Forest through Article 97: Lucy spoke with Bob Sinibaldi and learned that he believes land in back of the former landfill may be suitable for the new DPW location. This would not interfere with the intent to exclude that parcel from votes directed at Article 97 protection. Once this Town Meeting and election is over, Sandy will draft rough language for the necessary articles for the Fall Town Meeting to present to the Select Board.
- IV. Trail Activities: *Trail map updates*: Mikayla at MVPC has sent the revised trail map for final review. *Tree removal*: Trees have been removed but OSC has not yet received the bill from Keith Stromski of Byfield.
- V. FY' 23 Expenditures and special funds: Lucy purchased a cloth table cover as discussed at last meeting. Dawn reported \$215 remains in the account.
- VI. Correspondence: Resident reported hatchet damage to trees to blaze a trail in the Town Forest. Wording was agreed to for strategically placed signs to discourage this activity. Dawn will pursue this.
- VII. Meeting adjourned at 6:35pm and next meeting scheduled for May 23rd at 5pm