

Open Space Committee

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

MINUTES

- I. Attendance and Approval of June 11, 2024 minutes: Meeting called to order at 5:00pm. Present were members Lucy Abisalih, Dawn Ackerman, Mary Ann Glennon, Sue Simmons, Sandy Venner, and Sean Wright. Motion made and seconded by Mary and Sean and voted to approve June 11, 2024 minutes.
- II. Status of Greenbelt purchase of Hoyt property: Vanessa Johnson, from Greenbelt, made presentation to Select Board on June 24th and received support for the Town to hold the conservation restriction for the acquired Hoyt property. She reported that a vote of Town Meeting is not necessary. Greenbelt will apply for grants and start fund raising in the Fall. Sandy volunteered to draft a letter of gratitude to George Hoyt for previous land donation and willingness to work with Greenbelt. Lucy will pursue getting stationery designed for such purposes.
- III. Trail Activities:
 - McLaren Trail improvements: Mary shared information about a workshop on trail maintenance.
 - Trail Map updates: Discussed corrections for McLaren Trail map and use of funds. As there is no access to the original brochure, a new one may need to be created. Town Forst map is accurate until purchase of Hoyt property happens. It was decided to wait until new OS & R Plan is created to do map updates.
- IV. Outreach to Conservation Commission: Lucy is on the Con Comm agenda for their July 24th meeting. She asked for suggestions on what to cover. She will emphasize need to maintain regular communication. It was suggested she also mention issues around tree removal and need for more hours for agent so can assist with matters such as the needed beaver deceiver.
- V. Coordination with Master Plan Process: The full draft is ready for review and comment. It includes a strong recommendation for conservation protection for the Town Forest. Sandy will resend the OSC request for the articles to be placed on the warrant for the Fall Town Meeting to the Select Board.
- VI. Planning for Old Home Days: Booth design and set-up and coverage schedule were arranged.
- VII. FY'24 Budget Plans and Expenditures: Possibly use funds for t-shirts and official stationery.
- VIII. Correspondence: Kendra Bowker sent email about new Neighbors for Nature group.
- IX. Meeting adjourned at 6:15pm. Next meeting will be Tuesday, Sept. 24th at 5pm on Zoom.