

Minutes of Open Space Committee
October 13, 2022

Members Present: Paul Cohen, Rich Maiore, JoAnne Crystoff {arrived at the beginning of the Goals discussion}, Franklyn Carlson, Jim Lee, and Peter Dorward.

Non-voting Members Present: Liz Allard

Others Present: Jeff Legros, MRPC

The virtual meeting was called to order by Chair Peter Dorward at 8:10 a.m.

Minutes

Rich Maiore moved to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2022 meeting. Franklyn Carlson seconded the motion. Vote was unanimously in favor.

Paul volunteered to take minutes of current meeting.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 10, 2022, at 8:00 a.m.

Potential Site for a New Ballfield

Rich confirmed that the three locations to be examined for a new ballfield are the forested land located at the northerly end of Harvard Park, the southerly Harvard Park land area located adjacent to the new Council on Aging, and the land area next to the Ryan Land ballfields. Jim noted that the Committee is seeking to define a non-wetland area at these locations to place a ballfield. Liz informed the Committee that the Town is seeking a proposal from Ross Associates to perform the wetlands delineation. The proposal would be presented to the Finance Committee for a Reserve Fund Transfer in order to pay for the wetlands engineering services. If it is possible to locate a ballfield, the Park and Recreation Commission would be asked to provide dimensions for a field. This would be followed by obtaining a proposal from Ross Associates to develop a plan for a field. Another Reserve Fund Transfer request would be presented to the Finance Committee to fund that work.

Outreach to Owners of Potential Land for Active Recreation

Rich volunteered to serve as the contact person in the letter to landowners.

Peter informed the Committee that he had provided Linda Dwight with the names of the six property owners who are to be contacted prior to the mailing of the letter. Peter and Jim will contact the six property owners. Dan, Linda, and/or Paul will be involved in each of these six meetings to present the Town's recreational interests.

Open Space Plan Section Review

The deadline for submitting updated text for the revised Open Space Plan is November 7. Linda, Dan, and Paul will provide the recreational update. Franklyn and the Agricultural Commission will try to provide updated text for the agricultural section.

Jeff Legros discussed the Goals section of the Open Space Plan. He reviewed the updates to the community's Vision Statements. He described the text of the proposed revised Vision Statements pertaining to different types of lands/habitats, water resources, historical and cultural resources, active recreation facilities, climate resiliency, Bare Hill Pond, connectivity between open space parcels, and agricultural land protection. Jeff noted that some Vision Statements will cover multiple categories. He explained that the next step is to develop specific goals and objectives.

Review of Littleton County Road Community Preservation Committee Application

There were no comments on Peter's slides. Rich volunteered to join Peter in the presentation to the Community Preservation Committee.

Adjournment

Rich made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jim seconded the motion. Vote was unanimously in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m.