

Open Space Committee (OSC)
Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 13, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

Meeting held via Zoom Meeting

Attendees:

Eileen Hiney (Committee Member)
Nicole Holmes (Committee Member)
Kevin Mandeville (Committee Member)
Maureen Minasian (Committee Member)
Steven Solbo (Town of Bridgewater)

The following items were discussed:

1. Steve Solbo described a training session that will be held on May 18th. The training will be hosted by a joint coalition (Nekatusset, Bay Circuit Trail and Appalachian Trail?). The training is open to all and will focus on trail stewardship.
2. The minutes for the March meeting will be reviewed at the June meeting.
3. The Town Parks Steward position remains vacant.
4. Slight modifications to the Statement of Purpose for the Open Space Committee will be discussed at the next meeting. Potential key words to add may include “resiliency to climate change”, “sustainability”, and “rural”. Nicole Holmes will propose modifications to review and discuss at the June meeting.
5. The committee discussed considerations for proceeding with site walks to various town open space sites given the current COVID-19 pandemic. All agreed we could hold a site meeting using personal protection equipment (masks) and adhering to social distance guidelines.
6. Committee members discussed that the recent “stay at home” advisories have heightened resident’s awareness and use of the town open spaces based on general observations from social media posts, etc.
7. Maureen Minasian will coordinate a potential future meeting with the Town Recreation Committee to discuss mutual interests and collaboration opportunities.
8. Eileen Hiney prepared a list of relevant past reports for reference by the Committee. The reports document the significant amount of study and public input that has already taken place.” See attachment.
9. The Parkland assessment focuses on need for Parkland Steward and identifies priority areas for improvement.
10. Steve Solbo described the Town’s MVP Grant process. The Open Space Committee should review the MVP Action Grant to understand the priority

projects and whether there might be any opportunities to “piggy-back” additional improvements to open space with other grants and/or volunteer work.

11. The Committee received an email from Carlton Hunt regarding a potential parking lot at Murray Farm.
12. The next meeting will be held on June 3rd. The meeting agenda will be posted. At 3PM, the Committee will perform a site walk at the Stiles & Hart site. The Committee will observe the ongoing trail maintenance, trash collection, and the location for the parking and trailhead improvements. At 4PM the Committee will hold its monthly meeting via ZOOM. The meeting agenda will be posted.

Meeting minutes prepared by

Nicole Holmes

