

Ipswich Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: February 27, 2023

Time: 7:04pm

Place: Internet/Zoom call hosted by Molly Shea

Attendees:

OSC Members: Ralph, Wayne, Andy, Katie, Erin, Andrea, Monty

Associate Members: Larry Eliot

Staff: Molly Shea, Open Space Manager

The meeting convened at 7:04.

AGENDA

1. Citizen Queries
2. January Meeting Minutes
3. 2022 OSC Annual Report
4. Shrewsbury meeting re. Open Space Program
5. 2023 goals
6. Summer intern update
7. New rules for public meetings & Training
8. Other items not reasonably anticipated
9. Executive session if needed

1. There were no Citizen Queries
2. Andrea moved to accept the minutes from the January meeting; seconded by Ralph; unanimous.
3. The Annual Report is due to the Town Manager on March 24th. Wayne and Andy will draft and provide to staff to finish.
4. Molly summarized the Shrewsbury call with their Planning Director and Assistant Planner. They wanted to learn about the Ipswich Bond Program. Andy was also on the call and shared the history of the program. Andy emphasized importance of goal setting and high level of organization required. Very different situations as they have much less open space. Wayne asked if they have CPA as that may be a better fit for a town such as this. Andy said that they are working on it.
5. A discussion of 2023 goals continued from last meeting. Molly reminded us of draft goals from last time. Ralph provided an update. Suggested goals discussed: update great Estates bylaw and criteria, MBTA zoning. Katie read out goals list. Andrea asked about bond prioritization list. Monty asked if it was on website – yes. Molly is in the process of updating list so suggested we wait until that's done. Ralph &

Wayne went back and forth over priority list. Monty asked why it's hard to rank and Wayne and Ralph chimed in. Molly will send out what she has in terms of prioritization before next meeting. Monty asked how we operationalize goals. Discussion of identifying needs and tasks for each goal before moving towards actively accomplishing. There was aside conversation about 161 Topsfield Road. Andy will help draft goals.

6. The summer intern position has been posted on multiple sites. The job this season will be mostly field work, housekeeping, and files.
7. As of now, remote meeting option ends March 31st, but it is anticipated the legislature will extend it.
8. Conflict of Interest Training update provided by Molly. Everyone should have received an email with instructions and they will need to take the new online training and it will be tracked electronically by the Town Manager's Office.
9. Other items not anticipated: Ralph asked for ORA updates. Molly shared that appeal case can be found on MA Court Website and there appears to be a hearing in late March based on the court's posted schedule. Monty asked for 161 Topsfield road subcommittee volunteers. Ralph offered.
10. There were no items for executive Session. Wayne moved to adjourn at 8:11, seconded by Katie; unanimous.