



Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: June 22, 2020

Time: 7:08 p.m.

Place: Internet/Zoom call hosted by Hannah Wilbur

Attendees:

Members: Andy Brengle, Co-Chair, Wayne Castonguay, Co-Chair, Katie Hone, Erin Coates-Connor, Andrea Lacroix, Ralph Williams

Associates: Ed Monnelly

Staff: Hannah Wilbur, Open Space Program Manager

Guests: Monty Monroe

1. Citizen Queries

None

2. Minutes from June 1, 2020 meeting

Because most had not had a chance to read them, Committee members agreed to wait until next meeting to review and accept minutes.

3. Open Space and Recreation Plan 2020

Hannah is shooting for completing a draft by Friday, July 10 to submit to the state by the week of July 13. The state's approval is necessary for us to apply for the \$400K land grant for the Kamon Farm project. OSC will make presentations to the Select board and Planning Board in July. Not every last detail has to be finalized when submitting to the state, so there will be some cleanup after the fact.

The Committee was satisfied with Hannah and Erin's edits to Section 9 Action Items reviewed at the June 1 meeting. Hannah said she had brought the action items to the Water Advisory Committee and Conservation Commission for review, and that those two committees had no changes.

Hannah went down the Workplan rubric updating the Committee on which sections were completed and which were still underway.

Sections 1 and 2: Andy said he would start drafting before end of June.

Section 3: Draft completed and reviewed by Andrea and Erin.

Section 4: Draft completed and reviewed by Katie and Caleb.

Section 5: Draft nearing completion by Beth and Jeff.

Section 6: Draft completed by Hannah and to be reviewed.

Section 7: Draft still needs to be completed by Hannah and to be reviewed.

Section 8: Goals updated and accepted by Committee.

Section 9: Action Items updated and accepted by Committee.

Section 10: TwnMgr, Selectboard, Planning Bd, MAPC comments to be secured in July.

Section 11: References to be reviewed and finalized.

Section 12: Maps – Hannah working on and nearing completion with David’s help.

Appendices:

A: List of committee members – complete (members should check accuracy)

B: Survey results – Andrea to analyze and write up

C: Accomplishments since 2013 – Wayne to draft

D: Abbreviations – Andy to review and finalize

E: Inventory of lands – Beth and Jeff nearing completion

F: Compliance with ADA – Beth completed.

5. 173-178 Linebrook Road

Recent controversy over Symes’ watering of new grass planting in defiance of watering restrictions is before the Select Board so it’s not an issue the OSC needs to weigh in on.

Andy, Hannah, and Wayne ‘attended’ the June 11 Planning Board meeting on Zoom to hear Symes’ response to Planning Board questions and requests for permitting of Phases 2 and 3 north of Linebrook. Specific to the trail running through the phase 1 and 3 portions, Symes agreed to install a proper path, set off by fences and undergirded with crushed stone running from the southern phase 1 across Linebrook Road just east of the west-side driveway. The crossing is in a location with good sightlines for avoiding approaching traffic and will have flashing lights. The trail’s outlet from phase 1 crosses one driveway and uses the sidewalk on the south side of Linebrook for several yards before crossing over. Symes said they would put crushed stone to the right of the sidewalk to augment its width and to accommodate horse traffic. Because that (180-200 foot) stretch along the sidewalk is in a public right of way, the homeowners association would not be responsible for maintaining that short stretch.

After the trail crosses Linebrook Road, it then continues parallel to the road, but inside an existing stone wall providing separation from traffic. It turns north through a common area and runs across the driveway until it meets up with the existing farm road running northward to the farm field. The trail will be 8-feet wide with a crushed stone base and fences setting it apart. The homeowners association will be responsible for maintaining the trail within the boundaries of the built development, but not the northern portion along the farm road up to and beyond the farm field.

Symes also agreed to help clear trees for the farm access road running from Mile Lane eastward toward the farm field. Jeff Rhuda, the Symes representative, said it was never the developer’s intention to build a farm road at the northern end of the property and it was never required in the agreement with the Town. Southern access to the remaining farm field on the northern end of the property will be eliminated when the development is built. The Town will be responsible for constructing the northern farm access road in the end, although Symes will deploy its heavy equipment to help clear the right of way for the road, which will also provide

an outlet for the trail to Mile Lane. The access road will do double duty as a route for both the trail and farm equipment accessing the farm field just to the north of phase 3.

4. Kamon Farm

Hannah reported that she is working on the \$400,000 land grant to help with financing of the Kamon Farm project. The Open Space Program rescinded its warrant article for Kamon funding proposed for the 2020 spring Town Meeting after not receiving the \$300,000 drinking water grant and considering the COVID-limited warrant an inopportune time to be asking for open space money. It's not guaranteed that we will be voting on the project funding at a fall Town Meeting. With so much uncertainty around official Town business and scheduling, Hannah ventured that it very well could be the Spring 2021 Town Meeting when we vote the warrant article for the Kamon Farm funding. The farm owners have agreed to extend the project time line another year.

5. Unanticipated items

It was asked if the Open Space Program had any warrant articles to put before the Town. Hannah said no.

Andy said he tried to get sworn in at Town Hall, but there was no nominating letter. Hannah said the letters hadn't been written yet, but that we had until late July to renew membership for next year.

10. Executive Session and adjournment

After a unanimous roll call vote, on a motion from Andrea, seconded by Katie, the Committee agreed to enter Executive Session and adjourn the meeting after exiting Executive Session.

At 8:35 p.m., the Committee exited Executive Session and adjourned.

Next meeting July 27, 2020

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Brengle

Adopted July 27, 2020