

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2022
870 MORaine STREE, MARSHFIELD, MA

REMOTE PARTICIPATION ZOOM MEETING

A meeting of the Open Space Committee (“the Committee”) was called to order by the Chair, Susan Caron (SC) at 7:01 pm. Second by Chris Ciocca (CC), Roll call vote: Craig Hannafin (CCH) Sue MacCallum (SM), Ned Bangs (NB) and Susan Caron (SC). All Present.

Minutes Review Regular Session Minutes for 10/27/2022 were approved as written

Committee Membership Pam Harght was introduced to the committee. She has filed an application to become a member of the Open Space Committee to fill the vacant the At Large seat. She has an interest in trail development and climate change. She in interested in learning more about land preservation. The committee voted unanimously to recommend her to the Select Board for appointment.

MOTION SC moves that the Open Space Committee recommend Pam Harght for appointment to the OSC at large vacant seat.

Second: CC Roll call vote: CCH, SM, CC, NB, SC

SC requests a volunteer to take minutes of meetings and be responsible for distributing to the committee and Town Clerk’s office.

SC will continue to prepare notes to the agenda in advance of the meeting for easier note taking. The format for the notes will be to include draft Motion language and votes . SM agreed to take on the task, SC will alternate if schedule becomes problematic.

Unknown Owner Parcels

SC has been contacted by Greg Guimond, Town planner for assistance in advancing the town taking of properties for which the assessors office has no record of ownership. 82 parcels have been identified. They range from small to one that is 50 acres. Town ownership will help towards land calculations that could eliminate the town having forced 40b developments. Some of the parcels are wetlands or in the flood plain that would also help with FEMA Community Rating score to help reduce flood insurance rates, although these properties would need Conservation Restrictions held by a third party.

The parcels need to have Title Searches completed for an eminent domain taking. In 2005, the Open Space Committee sponsored a similar project for 14 parcels that were in Zone 11 Drinking Water Supply district. This was a DPW initiative that CPC funded . Project cost was \$25,000.

SC contacted Town Counsel, Bob Galvin who will provide an estimate for the title searches. He has 2 title examiners in his office. SC suggests that we may wish to prioritize according to size and location. Procurement rules will apply.

Committee expressed concern for the timeline. SC will keep in touch with town counsel and if no response will ask for his suggestion of an outside title examiner to provide estimates. The cost was discussed and the need to prioritize.

MOTION to Enter Executive Session by SC not to return to Regular Session for the purpose of Real Property Discussion at 7:19 pm Second : CC Roll call vote: CCH, SM, CC, NB and SC.

Submitted by Susan Caron, Chair