

MARSHFIELD OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE  
REMOTE MEETING  
THURSDAY , 11/16/2023  
870 MORaine STREET  
MARSHFIELD, MA 02050

## **MINUTES**

A meeting of the Open Space Committee (OSC) was called to order at 7:03 pm by Susan Caron (SC) with a MOTION Second : Ned Bangs (NB)

Roll call vote: Pam Harght (PH) yes, NB yes, SC yes, Craig Hannafin (CH) yes,  
Sue MacCallum (SM) yes,  
Chris Ciocca Absent

Present: Jim Kilcoyne(JK), Select Board Chair, OSC Liaison  
Angela Scieszka, Recreational Trails,  
Jeff Wilson, New England Mountain Bike Assoc, Rec. Trails  
Mark Skalla, New England Mountain Bike Assoc., Rec. Trails

SC welcomes JC to the meeting and makes introductions.

SC asks for any comments to the FY2023 Annual Report of the OSC. No Comments.

Tribute to Karen O'Donnell in the Report will include a photograph.

### **1. MINUTES REVIEW** Motion by SC to accept 9/21/23 Minutes as written

Roll call vote: PH yes, NB yes, CH, yes, SM yes and SC yes.

### **2. PUBLIC SURVEY RESULTS**

148 online survey responses have been submitted as of 11/16. 10 paper surveys were left at Town Hall. H&W consultant informed SC that this is typical for a town our size. After committee discussion it was decided to keep the survey open until 11/24, one week longer than planned and to place flyers with the survey link in new locations. The Flyers with survey links and hard copies have been made available at the following sites and shared on their respective web pages.

Town Hall, 3 locations.

Library

Council On Aging

Boys and Girls Club

Coast Guard Recreation Center ( Director also distributed flyers at Sports events )

Notices and publicity with survey links:

Town Hall Tidbits / Weekly Newsletter/ Town Hall Web site and FB page  
Marshfield Community Media /Video Interview 10/26  
School Department Newsletters / website /social media accounts  
Websites: Open Space, Recreation , Council on Aging, Boys and Girls Club  
Email blasts: CPC , Friends of SR Park, Recreational Trails Committee and personal outreach.  
Additional sites to be added: Marshfield Forum, Brant Rock Market and Marshfield Hills Post Office.

### **3. UNKNOWN OWNER PARCEL INITIATIVE.**

SC reports that Karen Horne, Assistant Town Planner has been working to identify land for which no owners can be identified and has located 82 parcels. Greg Guimond has informed SC that it would be of significant benefit to the town to acquire some of this land in order to increase the amount of town owned land. The amount of town owned land affects the calculations for determining the number of additional units of housing mandated by the state because Marshfield is characterized as an “MBTA Adjacent Community.” The land does not need to have conservation restrictions for this benefit. Additional land in FEMA flood zone areas also helps support flood insurance rates raising the score in the (CRS) Community Rating System. CH asks if CR’s are required to receive the later benefit . SC believes that they would.

From the 82 parcels Karen has prioritized 20 parcels totaling 376.2 acres that require title searches for the town to take ownership. Initially CPC was considered for funding. SC states that in 2005 the OSC sponsored a CPC article to fund 14 title searches for parcels within Zone II water supply protection areas. CPC funded the project at \$25,000. SC believes at least 9 of these parcels were acquired for aquifer protection.

SC reports that on 11/2 she and Greg Guimond met with Michael Marseco to discuss town funding for Title Searches at Spring Special Town Meeting as the deadline for CPC funding for spring has passed. He was very supportive of the initiative and is getting an estimate from Bob Galvin for title searches. The project will likely exceed \$60,000. and will need to go out to bid and is of high priority.

### **4. OPEN SPACE LAND ACQUISITION LIST**

SC compiled a list of all Open Space acquisitions done since 2004. The list can used to update the OS inventory and goal achievement for the Open Space Plan update. There is no central data

base for this material and SC asks if this should be added to the Open Space Plan so it is available for the general public and can be used going forward. The list contains relevant dates, acreage, cost and Conservation Restriction holder. The Open Space Committee has facilitated the acquisition of 363.49 acres of land since 2004 with \$8,206,510. in CPC funding. This does not include land acquired by DPW for water supply protection some of which were funded by DPW Enterprise funds.

List Attached.

## **5. RECREATIONAL TRAILS COMMITTEE**

NB asks for clarification regarding trail needs for the JOMAT property. OSC confirms that JOMAT is now part of John Little Conservation Area. Committee discussed the need for signage to identify property lines as it abuts private property. NB discussed existing trails and creating a loop trail. Angela Sieszka who has the designed new trails signs will assist NB. She has GIS maps and files.

NB is exploring trail opportunities at 310 Furnace St and abutting properties on Main and Furnace for connections to the Cross Country Trails on Forest St. Trail could connect with the trail head at St Christines Church. NB will coordinate a site visit with OSC and Rec.Trails members. Property is water supply land and has a Conservation Restriction held by Wildlands Trust. NB will follow up with obtaining permissions as project develops.

Jeff Wilson from New England Mountain Bike Association discussed trash wood chip dumping on two trails sites. One off of Rte 3A and another at the St. Christine parking area. NB tells JW that he will follow up with him after the meeting.

## **6. 2160 OCEAN STREET**

SC asks the Committee if it makes sense to consider the demolition of the existing foundation done prior to seeking Requests for Proposals for Design and Cost Estimates for SR Park expansion? Would it be beneficial to have existing conditions clearer prior to funding the Design/Cost Estimates as a way of avoiding cost overruns from unforeseen conditions? Committee would like to get the opinion of an engineer prior to any decisions regarding demolition.

SM states a disadvantage would be slowing the project by requiring 3 separate CPC funding allocations. SC will follow up with obtaining an engineering opinion.

SC states that we will need to form a subcommittee for park planning and bid process. Suggests that it could be best to meet in person for bid openings and to include representatives from other town departments.

Jim Kilcoyne thanks the OSC for the work we do for the town. He recognizes the effort and amount of time volunteers devote to important town business.

Jim Kilcoyne, Angela Scieszka, Jeff Wilson and Mark Skalla exit the meeting at 7:15 pm

SC MOTIONS to **ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION** at 8:16 pm to consider the purchase, lease exchange or value of real property as discussion in an open session could have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the town of Marshfield. The committee will not return to Regular Session

Second: NB Roll call vote: SM yes, CH yes, NB yes, PH yes, SC yes.