

Northfield Open Space Committee

Minutes, Oct. 18, 2016
Town Hall – Land Use Room

Items in italics require action prior to next meeting.

Present: Julia Blyth, Robin Conley, Joanne McGee

Absent: Mike Barry, Bob Hall, Sue Ross, Kate Rossiter, Jerry Wagener

The meeting opened at 7:38.

1. Approval of minutes deferred. **No Quorum.**

2. Member comments:

Joanne – 1) Lane Construction began work on the Alderbrook Accessible Trail last Saturday. Lisa McLoughlin, Northfield Historical Commission, and Elizabeth James-Perry, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Wampanoag of Gayhead-Aquinnah, were present to research the ground for artifacts as digging progressed. 2) Joanne attended a meeting of the North Quabbin Trails Association to hear about the 240-mile loop Quabbin to Monadnock Trail which will travel on the NET through Northfield. She told them about the Alderbrook trail and will work with the NQIA Challenge Mobility Team. 3) Joanne led the Brush/Crag hike last Sunday with 9 hikers. She also led five ham radio operators to the top of Crag (with owner's permission) to broadcast.

Robin – The Community Preservation Committee has a mere three members but there are three interested people who are filling in their applications.

Julia – Friday Oct. 21 Matthew Beaton, Secretary, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, is hiking up in the Northfield Ridge with Amanda Lewis and party.

3. Right-of-first-Refusal Procedure:

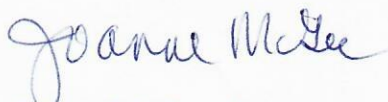
The committee discussed the draft procedure (dated 9/6/16) developed by Brian Noble which is intended as a replacement to the existing policy. The Committee agreed that all town boards and committees should be notified, but felt that the 30-day deadline was too short since town committees meet once a month. In addition to written notice to the town boards, email notice and a telephone call to the chairmen would speed up the process. The committees also need more information including the lot map and proposed sale price. Also, the requirements that committees submit wording for a town meeting article and also provide funding plans are too complicated in the time frame specified.

The committee suggested that 40 days would work better for volunteer boards and not hinder the process.

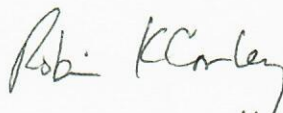
Julia will bring these suggestions to the Selectboard.

4. The meeting disbanded at 8:30. The next meeting will be Tuesday, November, 15, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,



Joanne McGee, Secretary



TPL	Trust for Public Land
NMH	Northfield Mount Hermon School
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
DCR	Department of Conservation and Recreation
FRCOG	Franklin Regional Council of Governments
DFW	Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
NQTA	North Quabbin Trails Association
CPC	Community Preservation Committee