

Northfield Open Space Committee

Minutes

July 16, 2019

Town Hall – Land Use Room

Items in italics require action prior to next meeting.

Present: Julia Blyth, Chair; Robin Conley, Joanne McGee, Sue Space, Jerry Wagener.

Guest: Jenny Tufts

Absent: Bill Copeland, Rich Fitzgerald

The meeting opened at 7:30.

1. The minutes of June 18, 2019 were approved. Jerry/Sue 5-0
2. Appointment to CPC: Robin will continue as the OSC representative.
3. Committee to work on OSRP update: In order to use our additional members efficiently, Julia will contact FRCOG about the timing of meetings with FRCOG input. In August we will discuss the revised survey with the expanded committee. Expanded committee at this point includes Jenny Tufts, Michelle Lawler, Joe Graveline, and Joan Stoia. *Julia will ask Kate Rossiter to also as she worked on the survey for the earlier OSRP. Julia will also check with the town clerk about the necessity of swearing in the expanded members. Let's think of a new name for these additional people.*
4. ROFR: The Committee reviewed the request by Edward Snow to remove three lots from Ch. 61B. Julia noted that these lots are part of our Ch. 61 Priority areas. However, the committee noted that concern was about the Mill Brook wetland area, not the higher areas. Under the new ROFR procedure the OSC is no longer the organizational hub. Each town committee will submit its own recommendations to the Select Board. The OSC voted to recommend to the Select Board that the town not exercise its ROFR. Joanne/ ? 5 – 0.
5. Invasive plant brochure: Robin reported that the supply is just about depleted. It was voted to buy another case, spending up to \$250. Joanne/Julia 5 – 0. Robin will call the Garden in the Woods to coordinate the purchase and pickup and draft a letter to PVRs.
6. Trail updates: Amanda Lewis, DCR is requesting a meeting with stakeholders the last week of August to discuss rerouting of a trail. We decided to meet Tuesday, Aug 27, 2019, at 7 p.m. Jerry will email list of trail advocates from an earlier meeting.
Jerry reports the Alderbrook Trail is in good shape. He removed growth creeping on deck and into trail. He also cleaned the Hobo Falls and King Philips Hill kiosks and replenished maps. The boardwalk part of Mill Brook is somewhat covered and needs work. Still wet.
7. Solar siting: Joanne continues to try to schedule the meeting with Planning Board. She attended the North Quabbin Regional Landscape Partnership meeting at which Dave Small presented solar info.