

Northfield Open Space Committee

Minutes

May 21, 2019

Town Hall – Land Use Room

Items in italics require action prior to next meeting.

Present: Julia Blyth, Robin Conley, Joanne McGee, Sue Space (by telephone), Jerry Wagener, Chair.

Absent: Bill Copeland, Rich Fitzgerald

Guest: Kimberly MacPhee, FRCOG

The meeting opened at 7:30.

1. Open Space and Recreation Plan revision: Kim MacPhee presented the proposed scope of work from FRCOG as outlined on the attached sheet. FRCOG is awarding the town \$8,000 in District Local Technical Assistance grant for work on the revision. In addition, the town voted \$4,000 at the 2019 Town Meeting. This total budget will cover updating Section 3: Community Setting, Updating Section 4: Environmental Inventory and Analysis, and either the survey or the public forum. The committee decided to do the survey and have FRCOG handle the public forum. The town may apply for more funds after Jan. 1, 2020 which would be used for the tricky Section 5. Joanne asked that Native American information be added to the historical section. *Kim will look at OSRP plans from other towns for alternate ways to present Section 5.*

The committee voted to accept the scope with the changes noted. Joanne/Robin 5 -0.

Jerry will talk with the Historical Commission about the Native American information. He will send out the 2013 survey to committee members to review before the June meeting. Joanne will look for the 2013 plan in Word to send to Kim.

Additional town residents are needed to help with the plan. *Committee members will contact people as mentioned.*

2. Minutes: The April 4, 2019, minutes were approved with one small correction. Robin/Julia 5-0.
3. CPA update: Robin distributed copies of the Open Space and Recreation section of the CPA plan. She asked committee members to review the section and return to her with comments. *Sue will pick up her copy at Joanne's house.*
4. Trail updates: Amanda Lewis (DCR) will try to have updated DCR maps by the end of June. Because DCR is woefully understaffed, the staff is having a hard time completing everything.
5. Solar siting in MA: Dave Small, Athol Bird and Nature Club, has agreed to present his solar siting work at a Northfield Planning Board meeting to which other committees and boards will be invited. Joanne is working with Rich Fitzgerald to nail down a date.
6. Member comments: *Julia will present Open Space work at the Senior center Friday. Joanne reminds everyone about the Veterans observance at Alderbrook Trail on Saturday.*