

Northfield Open Space Committee

Minutes

Oct. 29, 2019

Town Hall – Land Use Room

Items in italics require action prior to next meeting.

Present: Julia Blyth, Robin Conley, Arthur Davis, Joanne McGee, Sue Space,
Jenny Tufts, Jerry Wagener.

The meeting opened at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes: The minutes for Oct 15, 2019, were approved.

OSRP Survey revision: The committee edited the proposed survey eliminating some questions and adding others. *Jerry will send out an edited draft.* The survey will be mailed to all Northfield postal addresses and distributed by Survey Monkey. Arthur suggested that we use Next Door to encourage people to respond. *Julia will draft an introductory letter to be included with the survey. Jerry will get all the mailing details.* There is about \$1150 in the Open Space budget after using \$250 for the invasive booklets. *Julia will investigate the logistics of using Survey Monkey.*

Trail update: Robin announced that the Old Bernardston Rd. Trail to Rt. 142 is in great shape. Someone is keeping the mowed area of the half mile trail clear, and the beaver pond is being managed properly. Jerry mentioned problems with the trail at King Philip's Hill which encroaches on Mitchell's property. The Stewardship Committee is investigating alternative routes.

Amanda Lewis is proposing November 9 as a work session in the Ridge State Forest. *Julia will contact Amanda about details.* We need an accurate map of the area. Robin warns us about the toxicity of buckthorn; the invasive plant takes out native plants, grows into thickets and reduces germination of other plants.

OSRP Update: Helena Farrell from FRCOG will be meeting with us at our next meeting November 19 to continue work on the OSRP. We will edit Section 4.

Next meeting: November 19 at 7 p.m. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 after a spirited discussion about surveys.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne McGee

TPL	Trust for Public Land	DFW	Division of Fisheries & Wildlife
NMH	Northfield Mount Hermon School		
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection		
DCR	Department of Conservation and Recreation		
FRCOG	Franklin Regional Council of Governments		