

Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes
11/4/21

Members Attending: Paul Cohan, Brian Cook, Dan Daly, Peter Dorward, Linda Dwight, Jim Lee, Rich Maiore, Liz Allard (8:50 AM)

Next meeting will be 12/9/21

Meeting minutes approval from the last meeting. Roll call vote - all in favor

Jim Lee gave an update on CPC applications. December 15th the OSC is invited to the CPC meeting to review the two requests. Still River woods has been approved.

Dan Daly reviewed the CPIC application for a fields complex. Questions were sent to us and are being worked on. CPIC has set Dec. 2nd for a meeting to discuss.

Peter Dorward gave an update on his work with the maps. Working from the assessors data is easier this year as the Chapter 61 parcels were correctly labeled. Rec space had to change because there was not an open water set back. There is a 200 ft. setback needed according to Liz. This setback eliminated 4 of the smaller parcels.

Peter received a letter from Parks and Rec to identify all suitable land and Conservation Land and to provide updates regarding acquisition of land. Dan explained how the letter came to be including Peter's request to P&R to talk to ConCom and the Select Board to see if use of Article 97 land for active rec would be feasible. Peter said that the maps currently do not have Conservation Land identified. Dan Daly read from a 2018 Select Board meeting where a prior land swap was looked upon favorably.

Rich asked if there was a downside to providing the Article 97 land data to P&R as he wanted to be able to say OSC had looked at all potential land. Peter identified two possible downsides. In an earlier situation OSC had provided data to P&R, and then was stuck in the middle of a debate between P&R and ConCom which is not OSC's role. He also added that he did not feel the use of Article 97 land for active recreation was appropriate, and shared highlights of the State's EOE policy on disposition of Article 97 land, including the requirement that any land be replaced with land of greater or equal value.

Paul Cohen supported providing a map that included the Article 97 parcels as the data is publicly available via GIS - as long as any provided data clearly indicated it did not represent the position of OSC. Paul also added he did not feel OSC should become embroiled in deciding whether a land swap between P&R and ConCom was doable. Linda Dwight suggested we vote on it. Brian Cook agreed that the information should be provided. Rich Maiore said he would share the information before the Select Board. Members wanted to include language that including the Conservation Land information did not show a position of support for a land swap. Paul suggested OSC should alert ConCom that the Article 97 maps had been requested by P&R and were to be provided. Peter indicated he was on the ConCom agenda that evening to

update ConCom. Brian indicated he would join as well. Motion made and seconded by Jim Lee. Vote 6 in favor 1 against. All in favor except Peter Dorward.

The committee discussed the 2nd request in the Parks and Rec letter. Dan Daly shared that funding sources were a part of the request. Rich Maiore said the Select Board wanted the OSC to develop the Capital Plans for open space for Conservation and Recreation. Rich suggested that Park and Rec provide some of the details and then OSC review the input. Park and Rec is looking for an overarching plan for shepherding and funding recreation needs.

9:28 adjourned

Minutes by Linda Dwight

Approved by OSC with edits: 12/9/21