



TOWN OF NORTHBOROUGH Open Space Committee

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Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes March 25, 2019

Approved
7/22/19

Members Present: John Campbell (Chairman), Leslie Harrison, Dan Clark, Paul Tagliaferri, Amy Poretsky

Others Present: Brian Belfer, Trails Committee member, Mia McDonald, Conservation Agent.

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

Minutes

- L. Harrison made motion to approve January 28, 2019 minutes. Second by A. Poretsky. All in favor.

Project Updates

- 125 Rice Avenue – The house and backland have been sold to a private landowner.
- 302 Church St – Ashley Davies plans to meet the owner and bring Norm Corbin to discuss the historical significance of the property.
- Master Plan – Amy Poretsky updated the Committee.
 - Final draft completed
 - Seeking additional public input through final survey
 - All members encouraged to read and comment on Open Space section of the plan.
 - Information shared on cluster development and smart growth.
- Open Space and Recreation Plan – Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) being contracted to update the Plan. Data from Master Plan shall be utilized, goals in line with Master Plan. John Campbell asked for timeline for completion.
- Town Common – Bid opening March 27. Construction planned to begin mid-April. Bricks currently for sale for \$100 each for placement in the Common.
- Boroughs Trail update – Signs shall be installed in May. Sign installation shall be coordinated with Aqueduct Phase 2 signage.

Old/New Business

- White Cliffs – Consultant chosen: DBVW from Providence, RI. The site has been assessed and existing conditions documented. Next debt payment shall be voted at Town Meeting in April.
- Next meeting date determined to be May 20th as John Campbell had to leave the meeting to join Board of Selectmen meeting at 7pm.
- Yellick Conservation Area/DCR bridge replacement Trails Committee project – Staff is preparing an application for Matching Funds Programs through Massachusetts

Department of Conservation and Recreation for replacement of pedestrian bridge and fenced dog park projects at the Yellick Conservation Area on Hudson Street.

- Potential development of trail on Aqueduct Bridge – Staff is drafting a letter to send to utility companies requesting the removal or movement of utility lines over bridge to allow for development of pedestrian access.
- Dan Clark discussed two properties of interest:
 - 91 Pleasant Street: 16 acres listed at \$834,000 with house.
 - 615 Howard Street: 24 acres listed at \$800,000 with house. Ashley Davies and Staff shall contact the owner to introduce possible purchase of backland by town. Committee expressed an interest in land and soliciting quotes for appraisal of backland.
- The Committee discussed removing non-Open Space Committee items from the agenda and listing a Town Projects Update line item.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Mia McDonald, Conservation Agent