



TOWN OF TOPSFIELD

TOPSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Open Space Committee

Minutes for June 19, 2018

Minutes for Monday, June 19, 2018 @ 7:00 pm

Topsfield Town Library

PUBLIC FORUM TO PRESENT:

TOPSFIELD OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION PLAN FOR COMMENTS

Residents in attendance:

Holger Luther – 294 Perkins Row
Tom Schoenfeld – 205 Haverhill Rd.
Kathleen Madden – 205 Haverhill Rd.
Mark Liptak – 192 Rowley Bridge Rd.
Richard Gandt – 31 Timber Lane
Paula Burke – 23 Blueberry Lane
John Spencer – 27 Morningside Drive
Grace Neale – 31 Perkins Row
Nora Neale – 31 Perkins Row
Kim Sherwood – Perkins Row

Open Space Committee Meeting came to order: 7:01

Members Present: Joe Geller, Reginald Lockwood, Martha Sanders, David Merrill. Melissa Ogden joined the meeting at approximately 7:45.

Minutes from May 14th Meeting were approved unanimously.

Chairman Joe Geller introduced the 2018 Open Space and Recreation Plan, including a summary of the Plan and its purpose. He then reviewed the most recent town-wide survey results, and compared answers in 2017 to those given in past surveys.

The residents in attendance were invited to comment at this point:

- 1) John Spencer said that he would like to see better and more accessible mapping of public trails in Topsfield, and mentioned that there are public trails that are unused and overgrown in the Morningside Drive area. He also identified an error on page 42, in the second sentence of the second paragraph. Chairman Geller noted that the public trail map in the Plan does have the trails indicated and the map would be accessible on the Town website.

- 2) Richard Gandt referenced Section 9 in the Plan – the Seven Year Action Plan – and wanted to know where the action plan came from. Chairman Geller answered that the goals in the Plan were more or less the same from Plan to Plan, and that there was no requirement to show progress.
- 3) Kim Sherwood questioned the inclusion of the Rolling Green walking trail which is described as private in the Plan. She also indicated that she would like to see a plan for keeping the rural aspect of the Town as it is. Chairman Geller mentioned this trail is on private property and is only for use of the Rolling Green residents.
- 4) Richard Gandt questioned the origin of the information provided on page 17 of the Plan, regarding COCS (Cost of Community Services). The source was Holger Luther, who was in attendance. He also asked the committee about the source of information in the Water Resource section. Chairman Geller said that the Ipswich River Watershed Association and Greg Krom, Superintendent of the Water Department, provided information in this section. Mr. Gandt indicated that he would contact Greg Krom for clarification.
- 5) The Open Space Committee Meeting and Public Forum was adjourned/

Attendees:

Committee members: Joe Geller, Martha Sanders, Melissa Ogden, Reggie Lockwood and David Merrill.
Visitors include: Mark Liptak, Nora and Jeff Neale, Natalie and Bill Whelan, Kim Sherwood, Michael and Gale Bierman, David Larson and Donna Rich.