

DRAFT

Open Space Management Committee Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2011

Present: Dena DeSena, Zach Matzkin, Dick Bauman, John Planinsek, John Marchewka, Jessica Sullivan, Marti Blair, Town Planner Maureen O'Meara

1. Meeting called to order at 8:23 p.m.
2. Minutes of March 8, 2011 approved.
3. Correspondence. None.
4. Citizen comment. None.
5. Chapter VI. Maintenance Policies (second review). Section A, Annual Inspection, refers to “basic safety and usability standards as described in this management plan.” The Commission will annually inspect every Greenbelt Trail. As stewards, there are responsibilities that go along with that function.

Section B, Annual Maintenance Plan, is divided into Routine Maintenance and Repairs/improvements/boundary encroachments. This has been modified to be more cooperative. The goal “to professionally survey the boundaries of at least one-tenth of the town’s open space each year” is included. The “for examples” pieces for Public Works, Private contractors, Volunteer Labor, would be better as footnotes.
6. Chapter VII. Public Information and Safety (first review). The title should be just Public Information. In Section C, Maps, we should commit to keeping the maps current. Add Section E, Outreach, about offering annual public walks.
7. Chapter VIII. Additional Recommendations. This is a collection of items we have identified that other groups would need to accomplish in order to implement the Open Space Management Plan. Also included are Model Conservation Easements and Related Ordinance Amendments. There was discussion of the appropriate distance for a tree stand from trails and dwellings. We need to review this policy when we review the final Open Space Management Plan. A question was raised whether we want to allow “pet owners to leave pet waste in the natural areas of town open space.” We also need to review this policy in the final version.
8. Deeds. They will be put in a separate document that can be reviewed at Town Hall. The deeds are being scanned and will also be available on the website.
9. Public meeting. Re-scheduled for Thursday, May 26. We may meet on Tuesday, May 24th to discuss our plan for the forum. Maureen will take care of publicity.
10. Next meeting Tuesday, April 26. Review of final draft of entire plan.
11. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

