

Open Space Task Force
Minutes of the December 7, 2015 Meeting
Amended 2/1/16

Attendance: Pat Botteron, Louise Evans, Betty Warren, Roy Normen, Sue Larsen, Jeff Folger, Bart Pacekonis, George Caye, David Romejko, John Caldwell

Guest: Andrew Paterna

Pat Botteron opened the meeting at 5:36 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Andrew Paterna came to the meeting to discuss purchasing development rights. He was going to present this option to the Town Council later this evening. He would like to start the conversation with property owners. Andrew said there were two possible groups to partner with South Windsor. The state has a cap of \$600,000 and the USDA has a program. Key parcels are along the Connecticut River on Main Street.

The positive points are that the farmer maintains the land, preserves the nature of South Windsor, keeps cluster farming alive, and the farmer continues to pay taxes. The down side is the possible cost of purchasing the development rights. California is a state to look at for ideas on how to progress with development rights.

Roy Normen brought up the Church property. Bart Pacekonis said the parcel will be an open space subdivision. A tentative discussion was held that approximately 20 acres will be for haying. There is private open space on Graham Road.

Andrew Paterna left the meeting with the task force in favor of development rights as it has been for sometime. Pat Botteron and Betty Warren talked about attending the meeting with Andrew.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the November 9th meeting were accepted.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

The Barton property is about $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way cut.

John Caldwell discussed Lawrence Park Road. It needs to be cut and the invasive plants need to be removed. They are not going to worry about the trails for now. The main concern is visual.

Bart Pacekonis and Michele Lipe will review targeted properties. The concept is to support the Plan of Conservation and Development.

NEW BUSINESS:

1909 Main Street will be reviewed by the Open Space Task Force. Currently the bank owns the property but it is anticipated that Phil Koboski will purchase the house and land. The property walk will be on some of the back land. Right now the acreage is not known as the new owners will need land for horses. There is an access road to the Scantic River but it is not a good road. Mid January is the anticipated closing date.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The next meeting will be January 4th.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue W. Larsen

Secretary