

Open Space Task Force Minutes

October 3, 2016

Attendance: Pat Botteron, Louise Evans, Betty Warren, Herb Asplund, Roy Normen, Sue Larsen, Jeff Folger, Andy Paterna , George Caye, John Caldwell

Chair Pat Botteron opened the meeting at 5:34 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by those in attendance.

The minutes of the September meeting were amended to include George Caye in attendance. Roy Norman also wanted an expanded explanation of the SW Land Trust donation.

Correspondence /Reports

Bart Pacekonis resigned as a member of the Open Space Task Force. Roy Normen motioned to accept the resignation with regrets and gratitude for his participation. Herb Asplund seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Pat Botteron passed pictures of the water chestnut vines taken by Steve Lewis and his son.

Old Business

Pat Botteron reported on Heritage Day. Roy Normen and Gene Botteron set up. The weather was misty and participation was slow. Louise Evans came in the afternoon to assist Pat for the rest of the day. The tent will need to be dried. We need more maps of Wapping Park. The book is missing page 189. Louise asked if the open space near Gorski Drive had been settled. Jeff Folger said yes and it would be added to the map.

Lawrence Park looks better but due to that there are unwanted people in the park.

The Nelson property application was approved by the Planning & Zoning Commission. CT Water will install the water. The question is whether they will do it as a community service as they did for Enfield. The Open Space Task Force also discussed the neighbor mowing the property. We should get a legal opinion from the town attorney as to how to proceed with this issue. Do we make them prove they have liability insurance? Do we attach the ordinance to the closing papers so owners understand? The Task Force should send our concerns to the Town Council.

Andy Paterna reported that the Town Council is reviewing the consultant's report on the Priest Farm.

It was reported Wayne McKinney passed away.

The OSTF ordinance is #162 because it added a Chamber member and a SW Land Trust member.

New Business

Andy Paterna reported that development rights with the Town/State were progressing on the Raymond and Birden properties. The town of East Windsor is now getting involved.

Some members suggested that Pat Botteron should ask Councilman Riley about getting the money back from the Woodcock property. There were notes at the bottom the OSTF budget that stated we would get it back from the sale of the original property. Jeff Folger will send everyone the budget numbers.

The evaluation sheets for the Graham Road subdivision were tallied. As the tallies were going forward, the discussion was whether or not to develop two evaluations. The differences between Town owned versus subdivision are enough that this should be evaluated.

Jeff Folger motioned that after review of the Graham Road property, the Open Space Task Force finds the property desirable as open space but does not recommend it as Town owned. George Caye seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

The next meeting will be November 7, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue W. Larsen, Secretary