

Open Space Task Force Minutes

February 5, 2018

Attendance: Pat Botteron, Louise Evans, Roy Normen, Sue Larsen, Bill Flagg, Jeff Folger, John Caldwell, Matthew Riley (liaison to Town Council)

Guests: Joe Kennedy, Tim Shepard, Sandy Jeski, Bob Dickinson

Chair Pat Botteron opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by those in attendance.

The minutes of the November meeting were accepted with the adjustment of the Clark Street address.

Public Participation

The guests in attendance were members from SWALPAC. Back at the November 2017 meeting, Joe Kennedy, on behalf of SWALPAC, attended to discuss a referendum proposal for the November 2018 election. It was decided a joint meeting would be helpful and so this meeting is being held to discuss a referendum in the fall. Joe Kennedy reported that SWALPAC members felt it was not the time to have a referendum at this election. The State Budget is still in flux and therefore any referendum at this time would have a difficult time passing.

Correspondence

Pat Botteron read the correspondence regarding the unveiling of the emergency center building to be named the Ed Havens Emergency Center. The date will be February 15th at 4:00 p.m.

Jeff Folger explained a new program being done by an Eagle Scout. It is called tick tubes. Chemicals will be added to mouse nesting materials such as lint and inserted in toilet paper tubes. Adults will be involved to insure safety protocols are followed. High School students may be involved with an evaluation of the program.

New Business

Pat Botteron read Proclamations for Betty Warren, Louise Evans and Roy Normen. All 3 members have served on OSTF for over 20 years. Their service has been outstanding in many different ways. South Windsor owes them a debt of gratitude for their service.

Andy Paterna has resigned from OSTF as the SWALPAC representative. Joe Kennedy will replace Andy.

Jeff Folger passed copies of the last survey done by the town. The Task Force reviewed the questions and modified them to relate to the town issues of today. Tim Shepard said the questions should be simple such as "Do you want South Windsor to have a rural atmosphere?". Matt Riley offered "What are the town's priority? (pool or open space)". The survey will take a few months and the results will take 2 months. Preservation should be a high priority.

Tim Shepard talked about his 50 acres on Main Street. The Federal government will no longer participate so the State and the Town should step up.

Old Business

The Clark Street property is no longer in negotiation. The price differential is too great. Matt Galligan will not pursue it right now. There may be a time when it becomes more feasible so it will still be property on our list.

Other Business

Roy Normen commended John Caldwell for the work done on the Sledding Hill.

The next meeting will be March 5, 2018.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue W. Larsen, Secretary