Open Space Task Force Minutes

August 6, 2018

Attendance: Pat Botteron, Louise Evans, Roy Normen, Sue Larsen, Bill Flagg, Jeff Folger, Betty Warren, Herb Asplund, Joe Kennedy, John Caldwell

Guest: Bob Dickinson

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 July meeting were accepted.

Public Participation

None.

Correspondence

Joe Kennedy reported on properties: 407 Main Street and 404 Rye Street. These properties are up for development rights or purchase. Andy Paterna, Joe Kennedy and Tim Shepard will be looking into this.

Roy is still working on the handout. It should promote gifting and other ways to give property. It should explain tax implications and future use of the property. Mike Gantick has the Ashford pamphlet which we can use as an example. Matt Galligan will be able to use this with owners considering the program.

New Business

Pat Botteron discussed whether we should attend the Heritage Fair. We have a referendum coming up and we do not want to jeopardize the vote.

We could have a booth at Wapping Fair but it was decided that 3 days was too much for this committee to volunteer for.

No information on the results of the town survey as of yet.

Bob Dickinson spoke about the Eversource issue that impacts many property owners. There is a power line in the right of way. Eversource has built a wall to dampen the noise in the neighborhood. If the Town was offered the land, it might make it easier for the Town to get a grant for a Greenway.

The Matuliss property is still unresolved. The Gedrum property would add 57.6 acres to the 120 acres of the Sanctuary.

Old Business

Jeff Folger had sent out the Town Ordinance 78-33 and for several months the Task Force has tabled the changes. Roy Normen moved to accept the changes as presented by Jeff Folger. Betty Warren seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. Recap: 5 for a quorum and the membership changes to remove Chamber of Commerce and the Town will appoint members from Planning Department and Parks & Recreation.

The balance of the minutes will be from another member. The secretary had to leave the meeting at 6:30.

Other Business

The next meeting will be September 10, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue W. Larsen, Secretary