

Open Space Task Force Minutes

June 3, 2019

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

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by those in attendance.

The minutes for the May meeting were accepted.

Public Participation

None.

Correspondence

Betty Warren said the volunteers and Town employees are continuing to do an outstanding job removing the invasive species. She asked what we could do to promote their efforts. Discussion began on recruiting younger volunteers. Jeff Folger said goats were arriving tomorrow and will be in the town for one week and will be enclosed on Town Hall property where a lot of invasive plants are located to reduce the plants by browsing them.

Joe Kennedy said Mr. Cam Weimar of CT Agricultural ended up replacing Linda Piotrowicz, and had addressed the members of SWALPAC. He spoke on Community Farm Preservation Project, Farmland Restoration Grants and Buy, Sell, Protect. This information is on the CT Farm link.

Councilor Snyder talked about the proposed ordinance change to the Task Force membership. She said there doesn't seem to be any opposition to the ordinance. It will probably be on the next Town Council agenda. Quorum changes need to be approved by the Town Council since we report to the Council.

Roy Normen asked about home owners impacting adjacent open space areas. There are not many these days but they are handled by Planning & Zoning once a complaint is filed.

Roy Normen was thanked for working to get a donation from the CT Water Company to provide resources to assist in installing water on the Nelson property for the future community garden..

Chair Pat Botteron confirmed all OSTF members received the invitation to the Volunteer Appreciation Reception to be held June 28th.

Chair Botteron has also reported on the Task Force activities to Director of Planning Michele Lipe who is compiling information for Sustainable CT. South Windsor received the Sustainable CT bronze award last year and now working on qualifying for a silver award.

Old Business

Last month there was a question on the Redfield Development properties. Jeff Folger confirmed the address is correct.

Jeff made all the corrections indicated at the April meeting to the Master Plan but not those from the May meeting as of yet.

Master Plan:

On Page 15: Peck Property – Jeff Folger will clarify the wording so it is clearer that it is a conservation easement.

Use King Street and eliminate the pond.

Include the street location after the property name.

The property list should not include properties such as schools, Town Hall cemetery, library and other properties. Change the title to Open Space. Jeff Folger made the motion to “Remove all properties other than open space”. Betty Warren seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

A question was asked about selling open space. The answer is it has been done in the past but only rarely and needs a referendum to do so.

OTHER BUSINESS

The next meeting will be July 1, 2019

The meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sue W. Larsen, Secretary