

Town of Colchester
Open Space Advisory Committee
Monday, April 11, 2016
Colchester Town Hall 6:00 PM
Regular Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Chairman Nick Norton, Ted Fuini, William Hochholzer, Linda Grzeika, B.O.S. Liaison Rosemary Coyle and Town Staff Jay Gigliotti

Members Absent: Mary Stevens

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Chairman Norton called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm
2. **Citizens Comments:** None
3. **Approval of the March 16, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

Lind Grzeika motioned to approve the March 14, 2016 Meeting Minutes, seconded by Ted Fuini Ted Fuini & Will Hochholzer abstained. All other Members voted in favor. Motion Carried

4. **Open Space:**

A. Open Space Prioritized Parcel List:

J. Gigliotti Informed the Committee there was not an update on the Open Space Priority List.

He explained that at the last meeting of the OSAC, the committee asked Mr. Gigliotti to determine if the 47 acres on Windham Ave. proposed to the town for potential acquisition. He explained that during his research, he identified that the property was previously two separate parcels and have since been combined into one parcel with the same ownership. He explained that research into the deeds associated with the property revealed an extensive history and it will take him additional time to work his way through. He explained that he has been unable to verify whether or not the property is subject to any water well use and/or installation restrictions due to the property's close proximity to the closed landfill. The presence of a water use or water well installation restriction shall restrict the development options for the property.

T. Fuini asked if it was permissible for the Colchester Fish & Game Club to approach the property owner for the potential acquisition discussions. Mr. Gigliotti stated that he would inquire with the member of the Land Trust who originally presented the parcel for acquisition to the town, and let Mr. Fuini know.

Mr. Gigliotti handed out copies of the "capital Improvement section of the Town's proposed Fiscal Year 2016/2017 budget. He explained that in the current version of the proposed budget included the funding of \$5,000 into the town's "Open Space Land Acquisition Fund". He explained the proposed \$5,000 has been included in the few previously approved Fiscal Years budgets. The Committee asked Mr. Gigliotti to provide current up to date amounts of the funds available in the town's two (2) open space accounts for the next meeting in May.

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5. Any Other Business Deemed Necessary:

A. Open Space Plan

Mr. Gigliotti explained that the current Colchester Open Space Plan was adopted in 2006 and has been utilized without any revisions since that time. Being that it is now 2016, the plan is now ten (10) years old and it is a good time to look at whether the plan needs any updating or revisions. He explained the Plan of Conservation and Developments are mandated to be at a minimum updated every ten (10) years and while the state does not currently have any mandates towards Municipal Open Space Plans, it may be a good idea to at least take a look at the Town's 2006 Plan and see if there are any areas which could benefit from a review and possible revision. The committee discussed the best way to begin a review of the current Open Space Plan. It was determined that Mr. Gigliotti would assess the towns progress made towards the goals and objectives identified in the Open Space Plan and present to the Committee. From that point, the committee would determine the best area to focus on. Additionally, Mr. Gigliotti shall send all of the members on the committee a digital version of the 2006 Open Space Plan via email, before the next meeting.

Mr. Gigliotti updated the OSAC on the status on the corrections made to the Website. He explained that several members had identified errors regarding the OSAC meeting dates and times shown on the Town's website and the Open Space Advisory's Committee's webpage. Those errors have since been corrected and the one remaining correction is to the identification of the OSAC's vice-chairman.

6. Adjournment

Linda Grzeika motioned to adjourn the April 11, 2016 meeting of the Open Space Advisory Committee, seconded by Will Hochholzer. All members voted in Favor. Motion Carried.

Chairman N. Norton Adjourned the meeting at 6:28pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Jay Gigliotti

