

**Town of Colchester**  
**Open Space Advisory Committee**  
**Monday, August 8, 2016**  
**Colchester Town Hall 6:00 PM**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:** Chairman Nick Norton, Vice-Chairman William Hochholzer, Mary Stevens, Linda Grzeika, B.O.S. Liaison Rosemary Coyle and Town Staff Jay Gigliotti

**Members Absent:** Ted Fuini

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2016 AUG 23 PM 4:23

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Chairman Nick Norton called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

2. **Citizens Comments:** None

3. **Approval of the July 11, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

**Linda Grzeika motioned to approve the 7/11/16 meeting minutes as written. Seconded by Mary Stevens. All Members voted in favor. Motion Carried**

4. **Open Space:**

**A. Open Space Prioritized Parcel List:**

Jay Gigliotti explained to the OSAC that at the July meeting, it was agreed a draft of the open space priority parcel listing and the associated mapping would be emailed to the OSAC members prior to the August meeting. When staff went to email the items to the members, he realized that both the listing and the mapping were in a format which would most likely be difficult for the members to interpret. Jay Gigliotti shall organize the listing & the mapping so the OSAC members would be able to easily understand and effectively review the information and then email to all the OSAC members.

**B. Open Space, Watershed & Greenway Discussion**

During the July meeting, the OSAC discussed what Colchester's neighboring towns were doing in terms of open space protection, greenway designation and watershed protection. Jay Gigliotti explained that one of the most discussed items was that of the greenways. The OSAC felt that there were several areas in town which would qualify for an official greenway designation. In addition, the possibility of a new greenway designation may result in a benefit to either an existing greenway in Colchester or an existing greenway in one of the towns abutting Colchester. Resulting from the OSAC's greenway discussion in July, staff researched the process for an official greenway designation.

Jay Gigliotti explained that to either modify or designate a greenway system, there is an application process administered by the CT DEEP, specifically, the CT Greenway Council. The CT Greenway Council reviews greenway nominations once a year for official designation. The deadline for submission of Greenway Nominations in 2016 was 4/29/16.

Jay Gigliotti explained that Laurie Giannotti of the CT DEEP, was in charge of submissions for nominations of Greenways for official designation. Mr. Gigliotti is currently working with Laurie Giannotti on a Trails Grant, previously awarded to the Town of Colchester. He explained that the next time he spoke to Laurie Giannotti, he would ask her when the deadline for 2017 Greenway nominations would be and report back to the OSAC at the September Meeting.

Jay Gigliotti presented his findings of the abutting towns and their adopted master plans as they relate to open space and natural resource protection. He explained that all of the abutting towns have master plans (POCD's) which rate Open Space and Natural Resource Protection as an important goal. Discussion followed about designated Greenways in the abutting towns and the 3 watersheds which cover Colchester. Jay Gigliotti will research the existing designated greenways in the abutting towns and the watersheds and he shall present his findings to the OSAC at the September meeting. Mr. Gigliotti will also see if there is a way to easily send the OSAC members digital versions of the abutting towns POCD's. If he can do it quickly, he will send to all the members prior to the September Meeting.

5. **Any Other Business Deemed Necessary:**

A. **Open Space Funds**

**Park Place Subdivision**

J. Gigliotti explained to the OSAC members applicant/ owner of the 17-Lot, duplex unit, "Park Place Subdivision" has submitted building permits for the duplex units for all of the 17 lots in the development. As was previously discussed, the subdivision was approved with a fee in lieu of open space. The open space fee in lieu amount totaled \$35,000 and was to be paid as permits and Certificate of Occupancy's were issued for each duplex unit. To date, none of the units has received a Certificate of Occupancy, so Open Space fees were only collected for the permit portion of each lot. Currently, \$17,499.97 of the \$35,000 open space fees has been collected and another \$1,029.41 will be collected for each Certificate of Occupancy that is issued.

Jay Gigliotti told the OSAC members that if there was anyone who wanted to come to the Planning & Zoning Department to review the abutting town's POCD's or Open Space Plans to either give him a call or just stop by the office. He shall leave the binder containing the documents at the counter in case he is not available when someone comes into to review them.

6. **Adjournment**

**Linda Grzeika motioned to adjourn the August 8, 2016 meeting of the Open Space Advisory Committee, seconded by Will Hochholzer. All members voted in Favor. Motion Carried.**

Chairman Nick Norton adjourned the meeting at 6:38pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jay Gigliotti