

**Town of Colchester**  
**Open Space Advisory Committee**  
**Monday, August 13, 2018**  
**Colchester Town Hall 6:00 PM**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**Amended**

**Members Present:** Chairman Will Hochholzer, Vice-Chairman Ted Fuini, Linda Grzeika and Town Staff Jay Gigliotti

**Members Absent:** Nick Norton, Mary Stevens, B.O.S. Liaison Rosemary Coyle

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Chairman William Hochholzer called the 8/13/18 OSAC Meeting to order at 6:01pm
2. **Citizens Comments:** A resident new to town attended the meeting. The resident indicated they were attracted to Colchester because of the open space and was interested in learning more.
3. **Approval of the Regular Meeting Minutes:**

**Linda Grzeika motioned to approve the 6/11/18 OSAC meeting minutes. Seconded by Vice-Chairman Ted Fuini. All members voted in Favor. Motion Carried.**

4. **Open Space:**

**Ruby & Elizabeth Cohen Woodlands**

Jay Gigliotti explained to the OSAC he had been contacted by Katherine Kosiba, president of the Colchester Garden Club, to help with development of the six signage boards located under a wooden kiosk near the entrance to the park. Three of the six informational signs would be dedicated to open space, wildlife, wetlands and watercourses. Mr. Gigliotti would be working on these three signs and when a draft was completed he would share with the OSAC.

Some of the overgrown vegetation has been removed near the water, allowing park users better access the water and the garden club has done a great job with the flower beds at the park entrance. A 360 degree wooden bench has also been installed, giving park goers a place to sit and rest next to the water. The bench is constructed at the base of a large evergreen tree and it surrounds the entire base of the tree.

**CT DEEP Recreational Trails Program Grant**

Jay Gigliotti explained the CT DEEP had made funding available for the recreational trails program. In 2015, the town applied for and received funds from this program to determine if a trail could be designed in the public ROW along cemetery road. This grant is nearing completion and the recently announced funded could potentially be used to facilitate the installation of the recently designed trail. If completed, this would result in a contiguous pedestrian trail traveling from East Lyme to Thompson and the Mass. Border.

The recently announced funding has a deadline of 10/31/18 and Jay Gigliotti shall be holding a public informational session on the potential submission to this grant round. He will keep the OSAC posted on the progress.

**Source 2 Sea**

Jay Gigliotti explained the town is again participating in Source 2 Sea clean-up day. The is a national event in which volunteers gather and pick up trash along rivers and watershed areas. Mr. Gigliotti explained after a number of different sites were discussed, Comstock Bridge Road and River Road were chosen for trash clean up. The town shall be collecting and disposing of the trash collected. Jay Gigliotti is working with the Salmon River Watershed Partnership, CME Associates and the CT River Conservancy on this event.

## **Brownfield & Open Space**

The town has applied to a UCONN program to help with the submissions of potentially two applications to the EPA for brownfields assessments/ redevelopments. The UCONN program involves assisting the town in preparation of the submission documents as well as facilitating meetings between all stakeholders. The town identified two properties with previous brownfield type uses which could benefit from acceptance into the program. One property located on River Road (which actually consists of 3 smaller parcels) and the other is on Comstock Bridge Rd. The town's intent is to secure these properties as some type of open space, as both of the properties include river frontages in excess of 1000'.

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

The OSAC had a discussion about security measures at Ruby Cohen Park and the proper procedure for members for town boards and commission to submit resignations.

### **6. Adjournment**

**Motion made by Vice-Chairman Ted Fuini to adjourn the 8/13/18 meeting of the Open Space Advisory Committee, seconded by Linda Grzeika. All Members Voted in Favor. Motion Carried.**

Chairman William Hochholzer adjourned the August 13, 2018 OSAC meeting at 6:23pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jay Gigliotti