

HOLDEN OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE (OSRP)
REMOTE MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2021
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Danielle Marini, CMRCP
Cathy Doherty, Committee Chair
David Murphy, Vice Chair, Holden Youth Soccer (HYS)
Glenda Williamson, Secretary
Pamela Harding, Planning Dept.
Denise Morano, Holden Recreation
Erin Bradbury, Rec. Committee
Jim Dunn, Ag. Commission
Richard Callahan, WOLCS
Mike Savino, Recreation/Sports
Dan Prosser, Eagle Lake
Jean-Paul Paulynice, Recreation, Public Outreach, Education

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jessica Cosenza, Holden Community Garden
Katie Brier, Holden Community Garden
James Gevry

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Approval of Minutes (1/19/21)
2. Community Survey
3. OSRP Goals
4. Public Forum
5. Next Steps
6. Next Meeting
7. Adjourn

Cathy Doherty asked for a motion to approve the January 19th meeting minutes. Motion by Jim Dunn, seconded by Denise Morano, all in favor.

Dani Marini stated that there have been 14 surveys returned so far and that the average time to take the survey was 13 minutes. D. Marini is to post the community survey to the CMRCP webpage this week. The Committee is to continue with posting and promotion of the community survey to the public. A post should be added to Wachusett Chat, the Town's Facebook page and the electronic sign board in front of Town Hall. Paper copies of the flier should be distributed to local businesses.

D. Marini opened the discussion of the OSRP Goals and Objectives. She encouraged the Committee to continue with the review of the OSRP Goals and Objectives and review the 2019 Master Plan goals. There are four broad goals listed at the beginning of Section 8 of the 2012 plan. The Committee members offered some suggestions for the revision of these goals. C. Doherty suggested adding fishing and hunting, J. Dunn and Richard Callahan would like to have the protection of important agricultural areas added as a main goal. The Town of Holden is a “Right-to-Farm” community. Information on the right-to-farm bylaw could be added to the plan. D. Marini is to send out some example’s of other town’s goals and objectives; this will give the Committee some ideas and will be helpful for the development of Holden’s goals.

The Committee discussed the venue for the public forum, if this should be an in-person or remote event given the current Covid situation. D. Morano suggested remote may be more appropriate given that Town offices are closed and due to social distancing requirements.

D. Marini will give a presentation at the beginning of the public forum, talk about the key points in the plan update and will highlight unique features in Holden. The Committee agreed on a mid-April to early May timeline for the public forum. M. Savino asked the purpose of the public forum. D. Marini replied that it is a required part of the OSRP and that feedback from the public will help to define the goals and objectives of the plan. J. Dunn stated that the public forum would have to be in compliance with the social gathering restrictions due to the Covid. Dani stated that the community must be informed about the public forum and that the forum must be easily accessible to the public. Pam Harding suggested the Committee contact the local tv channel (HCTV) to broadcast the public forum. D. Marini advised that there could be two public forums (i.e. one on a weekday evening and one on a Saturday morning) to make attendance easier for the public.

D. Marini reminded the Committee to review the ADA self-evaluation guidelines located in the shared one-drive folder. The committee should continue with the trails database and determine the trails that need to be mapped. D. Marini will send an update on the community survey results on or around Feb. 23rd.

The committee agreed on Tuesday, March 2nd for the next meeting date. C. Doherty asked for a motion to close the meeting. Motion by J. Dunn, seconded by D. Morano, meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Minutes submitted by Glenda Williamson, Secretary