

Open Space Committee

C/o Norton Conservation Commission
70 East Main Street, Norton MA 02766
508-285-0275

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NORTON TOWN CLERK

2010 DEC -6 P 12: 23

Minutes

September 16, 2010

6:30PM

2nd floor conference room

Attendance: Pat MacLeod, Michele Simoneaux, Joan Guerrero and Conservation Agent Jennifer Carlino

Meeting started at 6:30pm.

Minutes of 8-12-10, 8-26-10

We reviewed the minutes 8/12/10. Motion was made by Pat, seconded by Michele to accept the minutes. Approved. Minutes of 8/26/10 and 7/22/10 were signed since they simply said there wasn't a quorum for a meeting those nights.

Our sections to finish for OSRP

Michele-Chapter 61, NHESP letter from last plan, 3-mile designation, dep chemical release sites, Michele submitted the chapter 61 section and the chemical release sites by email. They were printed for the meeting and reviewed. Some minor changes were made to the text. Jennifer added some amounts of land added and removed from each of the Chapter programs. Michele will make the necessary edits and resubmit the article. At a future meeting we will review each parcel and rank according to new criteria. If the chemical release site was cleaned, it will be removed from the text since we only need to report the ones that were existing between 2005 and 2010. Michele will update that section as well. She reviewed the NHESP letter and found a few places in the OSRP that can be updated based upon the letter. We will add a few more lines to the vernal pool section about clusters of vernal pools. We will add some description of the Canoe River Greenbelt, Great Woods and Hemlock swamp areas in the wildlife corridor section to address land protection across town boundaries. Michele will send a request to NHESP for new information for the new plan.

Pat-accomplishments list from the last plan, Brona Simon letter, Manomet letter, wild backyards program Pat submitted a draft of the accomplishments section and formatted it in a similar way as the last OSRP. She reviewed all of our minutes and updated the section with dates and more detail. She will complete the other sections and submit them.

Jennifer-section 504 letter, % affordable housing, storm water management changes, impervious cover Jennifer did receive a letter about the Section 504 coordinator for us to include in the report. She will complete her other sections before the next meeting.

Review the survey

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We all reviewed the draft survey. We updated the introduction section regarding eligibility for grants. We had a lot of discussion about local and regional projects and community character and revised those questions accordingly. We chose to use the words "community character" instead of "look and feel" of the town. We also decided we wanted to pull out more information from residents about activities they would like to do near/in lakes/ponds. We created a new question to elicit responses about motorized and non-motorized boats. We will look for a way to make this an on-line survey instead of the paper versions we worked with last time.

Review list of potential scout projects

We did not get to this and will bring it up at the next meeting.

Forestry project update

Jennifer walked the sites with the forester during the week. Both sites look great and the loggers are doing a great job preventing erosion. DCR might want to do a workshop at the properties in Nov. Phil Benjamin will let us know if these sites are chosen and a date.

Open Meeting Law signatures-Joan

Joan received and signed her open meeting law information from the Clerk.

Audubon Workshop

The Audubon workshop is scheduled for October 14 from 6-8 at the town library. We received an email from Audubon discussing the PPA/PDA maps of the South Coast Rail project and how they might fit into the workshop. Members reviewed the grant application and previous emails about the purpose of the workshop and felt it was not appropriate to add this to the workshop. Members expected the workshop to cover:

- 1. how to identify and assess land and the appropriateness of a project for that piece of land*
- 2. how passive and active recreation projects can be done harmoniously on the same piece of property*
- 3. examples of how other towns have combined the projects on an appropriate piece of land.*

We sent a follow-up email to Audubon reiterating the focus of the workshop.

Next meeting will be: _____ 9-30-10 _____

Michele Simoneau 12/2/2010