



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## Minutes of January 9, 2008

Open Space Committee  
 Minutes Jan. 9, 2008  
 Approved Feb. 6, 2008

Attendees: David White, Patsy Kraemer, Lisa Decker, Ann LeRoyer-Chairperson, Leslie Mayer, Michele Hassler, Elizabeth Karpati, Joey Glushko; Ralph Willmer-Consultant (VHB) for development of Open Space and Recreation Plan

**Minutes of Dec. 5, 2007:** The minutes were reviewed and corrections proposed – David White suggested corrections to the updates paragraph, correction to spelling names of committee members, and corrections to OSRP number of copies for distribution. These were acknowledged and the minutes approved with corrections.

**Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP):** In December 2007, we received conditional approval from the state DCS for our submitted OSRP. There were six areas which needed to be addressed:

1. Letters from the Planning Board/ and from MAPC – explanation sent to explain that Arlington has a Redevelopment Board which acts as Planning Board, and their review letter was included; letter from MAPC was missing, and we will follow-up on where that is.
2. Landscape characteristics were not included as a separate topic, but included as part of Section 4 A/B; a note of explanation will follow. Ralph will revise that section to create a separate subcategory.
3. Wildlife corridors were not dealt with separately, but were part of an amalgam of wildlife discussion. A map has been created, and will be developed further, and separate discussion will accompany this map.
4. A paragraph discussing the importance of open space was not included in the report. One Ralph will be developed such text for the report, emphasizing maintenance of what we have in the community, rather than development or acquisition of additional land..
5. Additional information is needed as to the ADA accessibility report. This was included in the Appendix section; we await consultant recommendation for improving this section and/or learning what is missing.
6. A map of unique community features and a map to support the inventory of sites will accompany the revised report.

Consultant Ralph Willmer will resubmit the revised version of the report, with the needed updates and corrections.

**Reporting to Town Meeting:** Following some discussion it was decided that the OSRP would be presented to TM members as part of the Annual Report from the Committee. No action would be required from Town Meeting. Ann LeRoyer is working on the Annual Report for the Town and will circulate it for comments; it is due next week.

**New Priorities:** We will begin to look at new initiatives in support of the proposed OSRP.

1. Meeting and working with other groups active in the community
  - a. Work with the Disability Commission on accessibility of resources
  - b. Meet with Arlington Land Trust (ALT) re status of some of their projects, including Elizabeth Island; Ann LeRoyer will be in contact to see if they can meet with us at our Feb. 6 meeting.
  - c. Meet with Mystic River Watershed Association for March meeting; Joey Glushko will try to be in contact with them.
  - d. Meet with Cons. Comm. and others regarding work to occur at Cookes Hollow.
2. Work to support private open space inventory
3. Education efforts regarding invasive plants – Patsy Kraemer will speak with Holly Czapski of the Arlington Garden Club – to arrange something; Spy Pond Committee is trying to get Rachel Calabro to speak on RainGardening

Some Updates:

**ALT Annual Meeting** – 1/28 at 7 pm in the Community Room at the Library; Kevin Knoblock Knobloch (Union of Concerned Scientists) will be guest speaker.

**Green Dog Program** – last neighborhood public hearing will be 1/10/08, and article is expected in the *Arlington Advocate* ; report will be before Town Meeting, but no action requested of Annual Town Meeting at this time. Leslie Mayer reports that there are many details to be discussed before putting a program before Town Meeting.

**Fire Station Study Committee (FSSC)** – Nancy Galkowski of the FSSC met with the Park and Recreation Commission to discuss use of Hill's Hill for location of new fire station; the Park and Rec. Comm. unanimously rejected their proposal.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted.  
Joey Glushko