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Minutes of May 7, 2008

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
730 Mass. Ave., Arlington, Ma. 02476
Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Amended MINUTES

Present: David White, president pro temp; Joey Glushko; Leslie Mayer; Patsy Kraemer; Elizabeth Karpati; Lisa Decker

Absent: Jane Auger; Ann LeRoy, Michele Hassler, Teresa DeBenedictis

Guest: Michael Quinn

1) Minutes - The minutes of the previous meeting were approved unanimously, moved by Joey Glushko and seconded by Leslie Mayer.

2) Open Space Plan -David reported that Ann will present the new Open Space Plan on May 19th to both the Board of Selectmen and Town Meeting members. We will email the times to the committee.

Postcard Samples will be developed. Leslie will get quotes on printing for at least 1000. The committee chose one sample postcard.

3) Linear Park – There was a meeting with representatives of the National Parks Service two weeks ago. At that meeting we were encouraged to pursue an affiliation with them (the National Parks Service) for technical assistance. Leslie has been spreading this word to people. Patsy has emailed Richard Duffy about an historical walk and talk on the mills and mill ponds along the linear park. Joey will be working on the application for us for technical assistance.

There will be a meeting on May 16th with Mia Lehrer. She was the original architect/planner of the linear park. Leslie will send the committee a confirmation of the date and time for this meeting.

4) Reservoir trees – The bids are out and responses due this week for reservoir trees. Some trees that have been planted have been uprooted. The police are cooperating and will put this site on their “hot spot” list.

5) Cooke’s Hollow – David reported that the RFP for upgrading Cooke’s Hollow is almost done. Dave Berry of the Planning Department is working on it.

6) Invasive Plant/Lawn Alternatives Forum – Patsy reported that a grant for this program is being prepared. We need to provide a letter of support for that grant. The grant focuses primarily on rain gardens. Leslie moved and Patsy seconded that we support this program. It was voted unanimously.

7) Undeveloped lots – This discussion focused on the undeveloped lots in the Spy Pond/Mugar area. Joey reported that the lots don’t appear large enough for significant open space development. However they might work well in the development of a walking path. In the area of the Spy Pond condo’s there are two lots that separately are not develop-able; but if the two lots were owned by the same party, they then would be develop-able. In the Mugar area all the undeveloped lots are owned by Mugar.

8) Committee Discussion -The committee discussed where to focus our energies. Patsy suggested emphasizing the linear park. We might approach the Land Trust re their interest in a walking path along the pond. Joey reported that Jack Hurd has been in some discussion with the Mugar family. Leslie reported that there is a need for sidewalk accessibility to Thorndike Field.

- 9) * **Special Projects – The official reopening of Menotomy Rocks Park will be Saturday at 1.**
* **The Garden Club plant sale is also on Saturday.**
* **On May 17th the new plantings on Broadway Plaza will be done.**
* **Joey reported that the Town received a permit from the Conservation Commission to treat the aquatic weeds at Spy Pond, with conditions.**