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Open Space Committee Minutes 01/04/2006

Open Space Committee Minutes
Wednesday, January 4, 2006

Present: Ann LeRoy, Michele Hassler, Joey Glushko, Leslie Mayer, Elizabeth Karpati, Patsy Kraemer, Roly Chaput, Adam Pachter, David White.

1. Minutes: Minutes from the December 7 meeting were approved with minor corrections. Elizabeth will take the February minutes and Patsy will do the March ones.
2. Management Plans:
 - a. About half of the plans have been reviewed and copy edited by Adam. Others will follow.
 - b. The question was raised about who "approves" a plan. We decided to change that to "Reviewed by" with the option for multiple reviewers.
 - c. It was also suggested that they might be "accepted" by the Town Meeting.
 - d. We want to use the official names for Town entities, e.g. Park and Recreation Commission. The first appearance will use the full name with abbreviation in parens. Then subsequently the abbreviation will be used.
 - e. Leslie will do the edits electronically.
 - f. Standardized GIS maps will be provided by the Planning Department.
 - g. Goal is to have the first batch standardized by the February meeting.
3. Open Space Plan
 - a. Last time around it was a purely volunteer effort. For the next version we want wider community involvement and professional assistance.
 - b. We reviewed and made some suggestions to a draft letter to the Selectmen asking for support and funding of that effort.
 - c. The Open Space Guidelines on the state website from February 2001 are still current.
 - d. We decided to inquire of other Towns and their planning departments about how they have produced their OSP and find out the cost and consultants they have used.
 - e. Currently there are separate Open Space, Housing and Business plans. Massachusetts is however moving toward a consolidated plan.
 - f. Updating the OSP plan may be eligible for CBDG funding. We would need to put in a request by mid-March.

Next Meeting: Wed February 1 at 7:30 PM in the Town Hall First Floor Annex.
Submitted by David White, Approved, 2/1/06.