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01/23/2014 Minutes

Arlington Open Space Committee Minutes

Meeting Date: January 23, 2014

Prepared by- Elizabeth Karpati

Present: Ann LeRoy, Joey Glushko, Elizabeth Karpati, Leslie Mayer, David White. **Absent:** Jane Auger, Teresa de Benedictis, Lisa Decker, Michele Hassler, Patsy Kraemer.

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as presented.

Next Open Space Plan:

Funding: Ann will prepare the request for \$15,000 in CDBG money for a consultant. If we cannot get CDBG money, we would have to ask the Finance Committee for money from the reserve fund, since it will be too late to get a request into the regular budget. But since the OSP is necessary (prerequisite for applying for certain state grants), the Town "must" fund it somehow.

RFP: We can start working on the RFP while the funding application is pending. We may not even need a formal RFP depending on the size of the project; Joey will check on the limit.

Input: By the time the plan gets written, we will have the results from the 2014 census survey and the ADA study. Leslie reported that a training session has been held for the people who will carry out the ADA study.

Review: The section describing the larger open spaces in the current plan was reviewed. Some updates will be needed, and the paragraphs could be rearranged, grouping the open spaces by location rather than listing them in order of size.

Census survey: Over 3000 replies have already been received and collated, and about another 1000 are waiting to be scanned. Comments show that many people don't know about the less prominent open spaces, apparently largely because they lack signage.

Adding signage: Park & Rec would have to design a prototype, and then funding would have to be found. Where should signs be put – what is an "entrance" to an open space? Would signs be ripped off? An alternative would be a map showing and listing all the open spaces; an existing one-page map from the current OSP could be updated and made available on-line and on paper.