



Open Space Committee

Minutes

Thursday, April 28, 2016, 7:30 pm

Town Hall Annex, First Floor

Attendees: Ann LeRoyer, John Pickle, Joey Glushko, Wendy Richter, Kelsey Cowen
Absent: Teresa DeBenedictis, Jane Auger, Elena Bartholomew, David White
Guests: Brian Kelder (prospective OSC member), Susan Stamps (Town of Arlington Tree Committee)

The Committee accepted the revised minute of the March meeting. The motion to approve minutes was made by Wendy and seconded by John.

Committee Membership – Brian and Ann met with the Town Manager, and Brian continues to wait to be appointed by the Board of Selectman.

The Committee is still waiting on Vision 2020 to appoint its new representative and liaison to the OSC. David reached out to Spy Pond Vision 2020 group for potential appointees. Ann has reached out, as well. Joey and Teresa are reaching out to the DPW's Natural Resources department's new employee to become a liaison to the OSC.

The website will be brought up-to-date with the changes to the OSC members that we can make as of right now. Brian Kelder can be added when he becomes an official member.

Town Meeting:

Town Meeting began on Monday, April 25, 2016. Ann planned to give Town Meeting OSC's report the week following the Committee's April 28th meeting. As part of the report, Ann planned to show the Open Space and Recreation Plan. The plan had been presented last year, but was still waiting on approval by the state at that time. Ann also planned to advertise the Open Space web app to Town Meeting. Ann's official report can be seen in the 2016 Town Meeting Report when made available.

The Board of Selectman voted no action on the Mt. Gilboa Warrant Article. The article was withdrawn from Town Meeting.

Walking Project:

Kelsey has not received feedback from attendees to the Public Meeting held for the Connecting Arlington/Walking Project. No feedback from other volunteers. To move the project forward, Kelsey will incorporate feedback made by members of the OSC. She will also speak with Adam from the Planning Department to work on an ArcGIS online option for collecting feedback from Arlington residents on the project. The Committee hopes an app for the Walking Project would complement the recent Open Space app.

The Committee was interested to hear from John that the ACROSS Lexington project has recently switched from lettered routes to colored routes—a suggestion that has come up several times in conversation about the Connecting Arlington/Walking Project.

The Committee spent some time brainstorming the official name of the Walking Project. Several options were put forth including: Connecting Arlington, Connecting Arlington's Neighborhoods (CAN)-Walk, A-Walk (with possible tag lines, "Follow A-Walk" or "Take A-Walk"). Kelsey will continue brainstorming, and choose 2 or 3 to be put to a vote at the next meeting.

After discussing once again how private ways fit into the walking routes, Wendy volunteered to look into the legal implications of private ways.

Article 22/Town Meeting continued:

Susan Stamps represents the Town of Arlington's Tree Committee which has put forward Article 22 Tree Preservation Bylaw for approval at Town Meeting.

Susan requested the OSC support Article 22. The Article is not completely aligned with the Committee's stated agenda, but does complement it. Wendy moved to support the Article, John seconded, and the Committee unanimously voted in favor of supporting Article 22 Tree Preservation Bylaw.

Picture Post:

John and David will be meeting soon regarding placing Picture Posts along Arlington Reservoir. 7 ft. posts of pressure treated or plastic wood are still needed to complete the project. John will contact the DPW for possible use of their "left-over" wood. Boy Scouts may be recruited for the installation process.

Concept Mapping:

John Pickle overviewed how concept mapping could be used to keep track of OSC projects. To demonstrate, John facilitated initial concept mapping for the Connecting Arlington/Walking project. Images of the resulting brainstorm can be seen in Figure 1.



Figure 1: Concept mapping brainstorm. Includes Players, Products and Challenges defined by OSC members.

John and Kelsey will meet before the next meeting to work out an example concept map on the Connecting Arlington/Walking project as a further example.

Town Day Preparation:

The Committee would like to include the Connecting Arlington/Walking map/app at their kiosk at town day on September 17. There are only two more scheduled meetings before town day, so the Committee decided to add one more meeting before the event. The date has yet to be decided, but will be in late August or early September.

Miscellaneous:

To close, Ann reminded Committee members of an event on May 5 at 7pm for the Friends of Simms Conservation Area. Simms Conservation Area is managed by Conservation Commission and Arlington Land Trust.

Phase 2 of the Mass Ave Walkshop is underway between Pond Ln. and Mill St. Phase 2 will kick off with a walkabout of the area with consultants and a public meeting on June 16 to present ideas.

Joey Glushko, beloved member of the Open Space Committee, will be retiring from the Planning Department on June 30. The Committee congratulates Joey on this occasion, and wishes her well!