



## **Open Space Committee**

### **Town Hall Annex, First Floor**

### **Minutes -- November 17, 2016 Meeting**

Present: Jane Auger, Kelsey Cowan, Brian Kelder, Ann LeRoyer, John Pickle, Wendy Richter, Nat Strosberg

Absent: Elena Bartholomew, Teresa DeBenedictis, David White

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:30pm.

The minutes from 10.27.16 were reviewed and approved without change.

#### **Take-A-Walk / Connecting Arlington's Open Spaces**

Adam Kurowski (Town of Arlington GIS Director) will be asked to make a few final revisions to the map. Wendy will continue to improve the logo. The logo will be placed in the corner of the map. A legend will be added as well as a blurb about who produced the map. The goal is to finalize the East Arlington product for website posting.

There was discussion about whether benches and bathrooms should be marked on the map to accommodate senior citizens. It was agreed that the information would not be added at this time unless it was supplied to the Committee (it would be unreasonable for the Committee to conduct the fieldwork). It was stated that the map can always be modified in the future.

The focus of the next map will be Arlington Heights. There was a discussion about whether the Committee should be sensitive about establishing routes too close to residents' backyards.

A large map of Arlington Heights will be brought to the next meeting. The Committee members will study and draw on it to determine routes.

#### **Picture Post at the Reservoir, Other Sites**

Individuals are finding the post and taking photos. Mr. Pickle showed the group examples. He discussed how this data complements satellite data because it enables viewers to better

understand the sources of colors and shapes. For example, viewers can directly see the state of vegetation.

There was a discussion about setting up new posts in other areas of Arlington, such as at Mill Brook and Spy Pond.

### **Tracking Open Space Plan Accomplishments**

There was a discussion about development a database to keep track of progress on Open Space Plan goals and objectives. This is important to leverage funds for future open space initiatives. New projects should get plugged into the database. The Committee would be responsible for populating the database. Committee members will begin to build the database.

### **Other Items**

A discussion ensued about available grant opportunities at state level.

There were no new updates on the Mugar proposal.

2017-18 CPA grant applications: The Mystic River Watershed Association is applying for a grant that focuses on the Mill Brook/Wellington Park area, and Park and Rec Commission with Con Com and other groups is applying for funds for a Master Plan of the Reservoir.

December 2016 meeting date to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:15pm.

### **2017 Meeting Dates (4th Thursdays)**

January 26, February 23, March 23, April 27, May 25, June 22