



Open Space Committee
Town Hall Annex, First Floor Conference Room
Minutes
Thursday, October 25, 2018, 7:30pm

Present: David White, Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Kelsey Cowen, John Pickle, Jane Auger, Shirley Canniff, Emily Sullivan, Wendy Richter

Absent: Ann LeRoy, Brian Kelder, Teresa DeBenedictis

Guests: Rosa Giulietti and Kaelen Campbell

Minutes: The minutes of September 27, 2018 meeting were reviewed and accepted with revisions.

Take-A-Walk/Connecting Arlington's Open Spaces: Next steps for Take-A-Walk maps:

1. Collect graphic feedback from Sept. minutes to bring to Adam Kurowski to streamline revision process.
2. Continue to walk and document new routes in Morningside area
3. Meet with Adam once we have a chunk of work for him
4. Include Experiencing Arlington updates and link (see communications below)

Open Space and Recreation Plan:

1. To track projects in Google drive, Wendy will code September meeting minutes to track projects in the Open Space Plan categories. Committee members can review the categories assigned in March 2019 meeting before Nov. OSC meeting. (See attached list.) Next meeting we can review October minutes vis-a-vis the categories. Next step: to incorporate projects listed in minutes into Google drive.
2. Funding options for OSC: CDBG funds have been used in the past. The previous cost to produce the OS&R plan was around \$15K to hire a consultant and printing costs. The plan is a requirement for the town. An editable electronic version of the old plan would streamline the process.
3. OSC – target date to submit a budget to the town: before the end of the year.

OSC Communications:

1. Process to update photos of renovated parks in “Experiencing Arlington” (on town web site):
 - Collect photos from friends groups. Shirley offered to contact design firm that did Magnolia, Elisabeth volunteered to contact Tony for Robbins Farm, including drone photos and educational garden shots. David has contacts for other friends groups.
 - Kelsey will check to see if Experiencing Arlington uses a Flickr account – and how to upload new photos.
2. FB Page: Jane has added Spooky Walk at Menotomy and the exhibit, “A Brook Runs through It” at the Old Schwamb Mill. She’s also cross referenced the page to the Arlington list. The public page can be linked to “friends of” Arlington parks.

Picture Post:

New posts will be installed in the spring. John requested we contact people who are interested in participating. The crowd sourced photos taken at post locations give valuable data and provide “ground truthing” for satellite photos.

CPA Projects Update:

1. Reservoir Phase 1 in process (pump house and pilot trail improvement.) Emily showed the committee a sample of the permeable trail surface material proposed. Phase 2 Capital funding is not enough to fully

fund the Phase 2 scope. The Rec Dept. is submitting a CPA application and may modify scope of project pending amount of additional funding they can secure.

2. Hardy Playground: Landscape architect selected & proposed design of new playground for older kids (after Hardy addition). The project is currently selecting a contractor. John suggested incorporating a sundial as a teaching tool could contact the principal or sustainability coordinator about including a simple sundial in the project.
3. Wellington Park project has 2 distinct components: park amenities (not fully funded) and flood storage (fully funded). Geo-tech analysis found lower water table than anticipated which will allow greater storage capacity. Playground project may shift to Park and Rec.

Other Topics:

1. AHS design: Community concern about loss of open green space. The AHS community presentation was postponed to incorporate feedback. OSC will discuss further after the next public design presentation (scheduled for November 27, 7-9 pm).
2. Public Lands Maintenance Group has not met, yet. David will attend.
3. Great Meadows access point in Lexington. The nursing home is now vacant. Town of Lexington and Arlington ConCom are watching for sale or proposal. A community effort is underway to clean up trash accumulating in the parking lot since the building closed.
4. Mugar parcel: The town GIS department is being called upon to demonstrate that the land area of affordable housing meets the 1.5% required to override 40B proposal on Mugar land.

Next meeting: November 15 in Lyons Hearing Room

Minutes submitted by Wendy Richter

2018 Meeting Dates: Nov 15, Dec 13

2019 Meeting Dates: Jan. 24, Feb. 28

From March 2018 meeting:

Open Space and Recreation Plan (2015-2022): Progress on updating information from different OSC projects and locations onto Google Docs has been slow. Wendy suggested that each Committee member familiarize themselves with a section of the Open Space Master Plan Chapter 8 Goals and Objectives (pages 122-123 and Chapter 9 Action Plan pages 124-138) to become more comfortable and bring expertise to the decisions on how to code the documents posted online. The assignments are as follows (and others can help with whatever goal is of most interest):

Goal 1: Land Protection - Ann

Goal 2-a: Preserve and Maintain Natural resources - David

Goal 2-b: Preserve and Maintain Parks & Outdoor recreation facilities - Shirley

Goal 2-c: Preserve and Maintain Historic open spaces - Elisabeth

Goals 3-a, 3-b & 3-c: Work on town, regional and state levels to fund and manage open spaces – Emily

Goals 4-a, 4-b & 4-c: Public awareness, education and access to open spaces - Wendy & John

Goals 5-a, 5-b & 5-c: Promote sustainability, locally and regionally – Brian

These are goal headings– see Open Space Plan on line for full description of different categories on p. 130 of electronic version <https://www.arlingtonma.gov/home/showdocument?id=26573> and p.124 of the hard copy.