



Open Space Committee

Date: January 27, 2022

Time: 7:30 PM

Location: Conducted by Remote Participation

Present: Ann LeRoyer, David Morgan, Elisabeth Carr-Jones, Shirley Canniff, Emily Nink, Eliza Hatch, David White, Brian McBride, Wendy Richter

Absent: Brian Kelder

Guests: Krista Moravec

Minutes

1. Review/approve 12/9/21 Minutes

- a. E. Carr-Jones moved to approve. E. Nink seconded. All were in favor, motion approved.

2. Open Space and Recreation Plan 2022-2029 Update

- a. Status report and review of Plan sections and maps
 - i. K. Moravec reviewed the status of the OSRP draft sections, including submitted revisions to sections 3 – 5 to town staff and return comments from the committee on those sections and maps. Section 7, the needs section, is next for review. K. Moravec read through the draft outline for Section 7.
 - ii. B. McBride suggested tracking improved aquatic health as an objective in the Water Resources section and D. White suggested the same for public trees and wooded areas. K. Moravec agreed to incorporate the point throughout Section 7.
 - iii. E. Carr-Jones asked to separate the public trees and wooded areas in the goals and objectives and D. White, A. LeRoyer, and B. McBride agreed that there was a need for separate evaluations of the two categories.
 - iv. D. Morgan suggested evaluation of wildlife corridors as a long-term goal and K. Moravec added language like the aquatic and wooded ecosystem health revisions.
 - v. W. Richter requested more explicit incorporation of the OSRP goals in the Arlington Redevelopment Board process. A. LeRoyer and K. Moravec suggested that such a suggestion lives in the paragraphs about sustainability and development.
 - vi. E. Carr-Jones identified bike parking and amenities (e.g., lanes) as a community need to promote walking and biking.
 - vii. K. Moravec explained that Community Development Block Grant data were added to the environmental justice maps and description.

- viii. B. McBride and others raised the question of requirements of developers to preserve open space and whether those could be listed in the Summary of Management Needs (e.g., offsets of open space, tree replacement requirements in tree bylaw)
- ix. E. Carr-Jones suggested adding work with the school sustainability coordinator to the climate change section, and D. Morgan volunteered to have the town's new Energy Manager review the section and add her contributions.
- x. A. LeRoyer requested that the committee add any remaining additions to the inventory of small open spaces. A goal was added to include the small spaces in the town's GIS inventory of open space.
- xi. A. LeRoyer volunteered to circulate her comments on the OSRP maps.

3. CPA Project Updates

- a. D. Morgan summarized possible next steps for funding of Wellington bridge replacement, loop trail, or other objectives. Town Department of Planning and Community Development and Mystic River Watershed Association are willing to approach the neighboring condo association about extending the trail from Wellington to the west, perhaps contingent upon the association's proposed work for improvements to their parking lot. W. Richter raised the topic of new development along Mass Ave and what options are available for conservation along Mill Brook. She offered to follow up with D. Morgan.
- b. A. LeRoyer extended an invitation to OSC members to attend the public presentations to the CPA committee set for Weds, Feb. 2, 6-8 pm (Mt. Gilboa, Cooke's Hollow, Hurd Field renovations, Robbins Farm Park playground).

4. Other news

- a. A. LeRoyer shared news of Brian Rehrig's passing.
- b. A. LeRoyer inquired about the status of the Picture Post project in Arlington. D. White and E. Carr-Jones agreed to work on updated materials for the locations, including reaching out to the project coordinator and considering new signage.

5. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 9:29 PM.

2022 Meeting Dates (4th Thursday except Nov and Dec) February 24, March 24, April 28, May 26, June 23, July 28, August 25, September 22, October 27, November 10, December 8