

**Minutes of the Holliston Open Space Committee
November 10, 2022
Remote Participation**

Committee Members attending: Lixy Carey, Shaw Lively, Matt Hodgdon, Ann Marie Pilch

Guest: Wilston Johnston

Ms. Carey, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:04pm, reading the following statement:

Pursuant to the Governor's July 16, 2022 Act relative to extending certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the state of emergency suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c 30A paragraph 20, the Holliston Open Space Committee will be using remote participation for this meeting. The audio of this meeting is being recorded and will be posted to the Town's webpage as soon as possible in accordance with keeping the public informed of actions during this meeting. I would ask that all participants remotely attending this meeting please state your name for identification purposes each time you speak throughout the meeting.

A roll call attendance was taken:

Ann Marie Pilch	present
Shaw Lively	present
Matt Hodgdon	present
Carrie Marsh Loscocco	present
Lixy Carey	present

Mr. Lively made a motion to approve the minutes of September 1, 2022; Ms. Pilch seconded. A roll call vote was taken:

Ann Marie Pilch	yes
Shaw Lively	yes
Matt Hodgdon	yes
Carrie Marsh Loscocco	yes
Lixy Carey	yes

New member recruitment:

The openings were posted on Holliston Reporter and on the Holliston Volunteers and Holliston Happy Facebook pages. Members were asked to share on their own Facebook pages. Mr. Johnston is considering applying for the position and resident Joseph Paru is also interested.

Outreach to target property owners:

Seven letters to target property owners have been finalized by Ms. Carey, with review by Ms. Pilch and Ms. Loscocco. The letters will go out in the mail tomorrow.

Pinecrest Golf Course open space status:

Town-owned land behind the driving range at Pinecrest Golf Course has been considered as a possible site for a new DPW facility. The Conservation Commission and Golf Course Advisory Committee are both opposed to this use of the site.

This would have a negative impact on the driving range, community gardens, and recreational trails, as well as cut down quite a few trees. The property deed does not offer any permanent protection as open space, although that was thought to be the intent when the Town purchased the land. The Open Space Committee should work with the Conservation Commission and Golf Course Committee towards permanently protecting this land.

Massachusetts Open Space Network:

Ms. Pilch mentioned that the website massopenspace.org is a comprehensive source for open space protection matters. A free conference will be held virtually in February.

Adams St. possible future open space donation:

Dennis Ferreira, owner of 734 Adams St. discussed a future open space subdivision of his Chapter 61A property at a recent Conservation Commission meeting. The proposed project was considered favorably by the Commission although it would still have to be submitted to the Commission for permit approval. A large portion of the back of the parcel would be donated to the Town as open space. Mr. Ferreira currently allows public access to the trail that crosses this parcel and connects Town-owned conservation lands.

At 7:33pm, Mr. Lively made a motion to enter executive session for the purposes of discussing acquisition of real property, not to return to open session; Ms. Pilch seconded. (Mr. Johnston left the meeting at this time.) A roll call vote was taken:

Ann Marie Pilch	yes
Shaw Lively	yes
Matt Hodgdon	yes
Carrie Marsh Loscocco	yes
Lixy Carey	yes

Approved March 20, 2023