

## **Minutes of the Holliston Open Space Committee**

**March 20, 2023**

### **Remote Participation**

**Committee Members Attending:** Lixy Carey, Shaw Lively, Carrie Marsh Loscocco, Wilston Johnston, Ann Marie Pilch

**Ms. Carey, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:03pm and read 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:**

Carrie Marsh Loscocco	present
Shaw Lively	present
Wilston Johnston	present
Ann Marie Pilch	present
Lixy Carey	present

**Mr. Lively made a motion to approve the minutes of November 10, 2022; December 5, 2022; and December 14, 2022. Ms. Loscocco seconded. A roll call vote was taken:**

Carrie Marsh Loscocco	Yes
Shaw Lively	Yes
Wilston Johnston	Abstain
Ann Marie Pilch	Yes
Lixy Carey	Yes

**Mr. Lively made a motion to approve the minutes of February 15, 2023; Mr. Johnston seconded. A roll call vote was taken:**

Carrie Marsh Loscocco	Yes
Shaw Lively	Yes
Wilston Johnston	Yes
Ann Marie Pilch	Yes
Lixy Carey	Yes

### **New Member Recruitment:**

Ms. Carey reported that Matt Hodgdon was stepping down from the Committee. She will submit an announcement of the vacancy to the Holliston Reporter and asked that another member post on the Holliston Happy Facebook page. Mr. Johnston reported that he heard about a vacancy on the Committee at Town Hall. Openings are also listed on the Town website. Other ideas for spreading the word were: Diverse Holliston, Newcomers and Neighbors, Committee members sending out emails to their Holliston networks, an Indian community group (Shaw will look into this), and the Senior Center newsletter.

#### **Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Update:**

Committee members discussed ways to be involved in the update. For the last update, the Committee put together a community survey, distributed, and tabulated results. The OSRP workbook has a sample survey, but we should customize to our Town. We should also work with the Envisioning Future Holliston consultants.

Some side discussions included scheduling walks on Holliston's Conservation lands as a group, coming up with consistent signage and trail markers (branding), and the idea of an open space Facebook page for residents to post photos of the Town's open spaces. We need to investigate how that might work as a Town committee.

Turning back to the OSRP update, Ms. Pilch reported that Town Planner Karen Sherman is willing and able to help with this. She did the bulk of the work for the last update. There was some discussion of what the goals would be for the survey, and the need to include climate change considerations.

For our next meeting, we should:

1. Continue to read the current (expired) OSRP;
2. Read the previous survey and consider what might be missing;
3. Look for other town's surveys and send to the group.

#### **Other business:**

Ms. Pilch reported that at a session of the Massachusetts Open Space Conference she learned about Neighborhood Outreach Grants that provide money for landowner outreach. At a future meeting, we will discuss next steps for outreach. We should also look at the previous OSRP to see if we missed any properties in our review in 2022.

**At 7:50pm, Ms. Pilch made a motion to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing the acquisition of real property; Mr. Lively seconded. A roll call vote was taken:**

Carrie Marsh Loscocco	Yes
Shaw Lively	Yes
Wilston Johnston	Yes
Ann Marie Pilch	Yes
Lixy Carey	Yes

*Approved April 24, 2023*

