

Minutes of the Holliston Open Space Committee

April 24, 2023

Remote Participation

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

Ms. Carey, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:05pm and read the following statement:

Pursuant to the Governor's March 30, 2023 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
Ann Marie Pilch	Present
Joseph Paru	Present
Wilston Johnson	Present
Lixy Carey	Present

Ms. Loscocco made a motion to approve the minutes of March 20, 2023; Mr. Johnston seconded. A roll call vote was taken:

Carrie Marsh Loscocco	Yes
Shaw Lively	Yes
Ann Marie Pilch	Yes
Joseph Paru	Yes
Wilston Johnson	Yes
Lixy Carey	Yes

Ms. Loscocco made a motion to approve the executive session minutes of March 20, 2023; Mr. Johnston seconded. A roll call vote was taken:

Carrie Marsh Loscocco	Yes
Shaw Lively	Yes
Ann Marie Pilch	Yes
Joseph Paru	Yes
Wilston Johnson	Yes

Lixy Carey Yes

New Member Recruitment:

Two emails of interest have been received. Ms. Carey will set up a meeting in two weeks to interview the candidates.

Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) Update:

There are no updates. Members should continue to read over the OSRP, read the previous survey (what's missing?), and look for other towns' surveys as models. The state's OSRP workbook lists what sections are required to be updated. On a related topic, Envisioning Future Holliston is holding community workshops in May and there is opportunity to submit input online as well.

Landowner Outreach:

Eight letters were sent out last year to owners of property the Committee identified as desirable open space. Our strategy is to be proactive and to introduce ourselves to property owners and invite them to have a conversation. Ms. Carey recently received a phone call from one of the owners in response to getting the letter. They have no imminent plans for their property but are beginning to plan. Ms. Carey will let them know we are ready to talk whenever they are ready. A suggestion was made to send them the Protecting Your Legacy brochure. A suggestion was also made to resend letters to the other property owners and include the brochure.

Open Space Facebook Page:

The Committee continued the conversation on this idea from a previous meeting. Ms. Pilch brought up the idea at a Conservation Commission meeting and there were some questions and concerns. On Facebook, conversations can get negative; perhaps Instagram, with its focus on photographs is a better avenue. What is the goal? Discussion focused on increasing visibility for the Town's open spaces, and building support for open space acquisition and preservation. Social media could also be used to post Committee updates.

Ms. Pilch made a motion to adjourn at 7:50pm; Mr. Johnston seconded. A roll call vote was taken:

Carrie Marsh Loscocco	Yes
Shaw Lively	Yes
Ann Marie Pilch	Yes
Joseph Paru	Yes
Wilston Johnson	Yes
Lixy Carey	Yes

Approved 5/24/23