

**Town of Bridgewater Open Space Committee
February 16, 2023
Draft Meeting Minutes**

Attendance:

Committee Members present: Eileen Hiney, Chair, Michael Silvia, Nicole Holmes, Lauren Webb, (Lauren left at 7:30 pm)

Member absent: Maureen Minasian

Town Staff attending:

Bob Rulli, Community & Economic Development Director; Josh McGraw, Special Assistant to Town Manager for Boards, Commissions, and Committees

Call To Order: A quorum was present. The meeting commenced at 7:10.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the December 15, 2022 and January 19, 2023 meetings minutes were approved unanimously.

Public Comment: Members of the Lake Nippenicket Action Focus Team were present and commented on the status of the Lake Nip development project. (See agenda item below.)

Old Business:

Wyman Meadow:

Water Dept Questions. Eileen has asked for a meeting with the DPW and Water Department Directors to answer questions about the project raised in an email from the DPW director. She has not received a response to her two requests.

Outreach to Plymouth Street Residents. Eileen suggested that in addition to writing a letter to the Plymouth Street residents informing them of the plans for this area, we might consider inviting them to a site visit where OSC members and Wildlands Trust staff could answer questions. Bob Rulli suggested that in order to move this along, the OSC should proceed with plans to write a letter and then hold a site visit, prior to the Conservation Commission involvement, while keeping the DPW and Water Department informed.

Bridgewater State Forest. Eileen is still trying to reach someone at the State for additional information.

North St property adjacent to Murray-Needs conservation land

Bob Rulli spoke with the Town Manager about the town contacting the landowner regarding a possible purchase of this property. The sense is that as the property is currently listed for sale, the town could not act quickly enough to initiate a purchase. If a plan for development is put forward for this property, at that time the town should consider working with the owner/developer to arrange making parking available for members of the public to provide better access to the Murray-Needs property.

Lake Nip – Lakeshore Phase 4 Project

Town Council decision re: rezoning request. The Town Council recently voted to table the zoning change the developer requested. The change is needed for the assisted living facility that is part of the project to proceed.

MEPA decision re Lakeshore Phase 4. MEPA issued a decision on 1/30 that the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) the developer submitted failed to adequately demonstrate what MEPA asked for in its response to the developer's initial Environmental Notification Form (ENF).

OSC next steps. Bob Rulli reported that there are a number of significant issues about the current and proposed waste water and sewer impacts of the Lakeshore Development. Town staff has met with the developer about this and these issues need to be addressed before the project moves forward. Because of this, it may be premature for the OSC to consider how to assist with the review of the open space impacts of this project.

New Business:

- Mass Land Conference 2/23 Session. Michael Silvia will listen in on the next and final session of this conference, which will be about the MA BIOMAP system.
- Parks & Trails Roundtable Discussion 3/28/2023, 4-5 pm Academy Bldg. Michael Silvia will attend this on behalf of the OSC.

Additional Items:

The next regular committee meeting will be **Thursday, March 16, 2023 at 7:00 pm.**

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Eileen Hiney

Commented [FY1]: