



Town of Bridgewater Open Space Committee

December 19, 2024

2:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88929663275>

Meeting ID: 889 2966 3275

MEETING AGENDA

Disclosure: Pursuant to Section 20 of Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2020, An Act Relative to Extending Certain Covid-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency, and the March 31, 2025, extension granted by Chapter 22 of the Acts of 2022, this meeting for the Town of Bridgewater will be fully remote and accessible to the public through remote participation to the greatest extent possible. No in-person attendance is permitted. Citizens who wish to tune in to the meeting may do so via Zoom.

- A. Call to Order**
- B. Approval of Meeting Minutes**
 - a) November 21, 2024
- C. Public Comment**
- D. Old Business**
 - a) Open Space Plan Update
 - b) Parks Publicity
 - c) Wyman North Fork Conservation Area
 - d) Tree Committee Report
 - e) Lake Nip Project
 - f) Reorganization of Open Space Committee
 - g) Hanson Farm
- E. New Business**
- F. Additional Items for Discussion**
- G. Adjournment of Meeting**

Draft Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes – November 21, 2024

Attendance:

Committee Members present: Eileen Hiney, Chair, Michael Silvia, Maureen Minasian, Nicole Holmes

Members absent: None.

A. Call To Order: A quorum was present. The meeting commenced at 2:19 pm

B. Approval of Meeting Minutes: Draft minutes of the September 19th meeting were approved.

C. Public Comment: None

D. Old Business

a. **Open Space Plan Update.** There is still no confirmation from the state about the town's grant application. Shane McGuire has drafted an RFP for a consultant to be issued once the grant award is made.

b. **Publicity.** There are videos in process for the Carver Pond, Titicut and Tuckerwood parklands. Jeff Fowler will make minor changes, as suggested by this committee after viewing the earlier drafts. Eileen will look into getting a link to these videos under the Parks and Recreation webpage

c. **Wyman North Fork Conservation Area.**

Wildlands Trust has a "no hunting" sign posted on the kiosk, which it will move to the border of its property. This will leave the town area without a hunting notice. This seems to be consistent with town practice on other parklands, which are generally subject to state hunting regulations. (An exception is Carver Pond where hunting is prohibited), A sign at this and other parklands stating there may be hunters present would be a good safety measure. Town funds are needed to help with an informational kiosk poster and a street sign. Eileen has set up a meeting with the acting town manager to discuss this.

d. **Tree Committee.** Nicole reported on the steps this committee is taking to reduce tree cutting, including finalizing a draft ordinance, and to plant additional trees on town property.

e. **Lake Nip Development Proposal.** The Conservation Commission at a recent hearing approved the project for a new hotel, including clearing of acres of trees. It is not known yet if it will impose an Order of Conditions that might include some of the suggestions made in the OSC comment letters and those of other concerned parties.

f. **Hanson Farm.** The process is moving ahead and in the hands of the lawyers. One issue still under discussion is what public access to the property there will be.

g. **Reorganization of Open Space Committee, New Member (see h.)**

h. **Report on 9/28 Autumn Fest.** Michael Silvia participated at this event to help recruit a new member to the OSC. A couple of people expressed interest but to date no one has submitted an application.

E. New Business. Eileen attended an on-line meeting regarding the open space component of the Community Preservation Committee's update to its 5-year plan.

F. Additional Items for Discussion:

a. **Next meeting is December 18, 2024 at 2:00 pm.**

G. The meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm.