

**Town of Colchester
Open Space Advisory Committee
Monday, December 14, 2020
6pm Virtual Meeting Held via Zoom
Meeting Minutes**

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Members Present: Chairman Will Hochholzer, Vice Chairman Ted Fuini, Mary Stevens, Lindsay Floyd, BOS Liaison Rosemary Coyle and Town Staff Jay Gigliotti

Members Absent: Kris Barnard

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Chairman William Hochholzer called the 12/14/20 OSAC Meeting to order at 6:00pm
2. **Citizens Comments:** None
3. **Approval of the November 9, 2020 Meeting Minutes:**

Mary Stevens motioned to approve the 11/9/20 OSAC meeting minutes as written. Seconded by Lindsay Floyd. All members voted in favor. Motion Carried.

4. **Open Space:**

A. Norton Park Committee

Jay Gigliotti informed the OSAC he continues to work with the Norton Park Committee on an environmental preservation grant to assist with funding the new park. The committee is also working on a number of other grants and programs as well. In November, the Norton Park Committee held a public information forum. The forum was well attended and another forum shall be held sometime in January.

B. Open Space Fee in Lieu

Jay Gigliotti reported the 37-Lot subdivision recently approved on Windham Avenue has begun building houses. The project was approved with a fee in lieu of open space in the amount of \$85,400 and the town is now collecting those fees as each lot is developed. In addition, two subdivisions on Stanavage Road, approved in late 2019, are nearing completion. With the exception of one last payment, all of the open space fees have been collected for these two developments.

C. Open Space & Watershed Land Acquisition Program

Jay Gigliotti explained that he had again been contacted by the sellers of the land subject to the towns' 2020 open space grant application. He explained the sellers are anxious and would like to know what the status of the grant application is. Jay Gigliotti spoke with the CT DEEP regarding the time in which

applications would be awarded. Mr. Gigliotti was told they were approx. one month behind and application awards would most likely be announced sometime in late January.

D. Salmon River Watershed Partnership

Jay Gigliotti explained that the Salmon River Watershed Partnership is contemplating hiring a consultant to help guide the partnership in determining long term goals. The partnership has identified the Horsely Witten Group as a potential consultant to assist in drafting and implementing the long term goals of the partnership. Among a number of other initiatives is the potential to pursue a federal Wild & Scenic designation. The Horsely Witten Group has worked with the Partnership in the past and has provided a proposal for the development of the long term plan. The Partnership shall be discussing the proposal at their next regular meeting in December. Lindsay Floyd indicated she has had previous experience with Wild & Scenic Designation and offered to assist in any way she could.

5. Any Other Business Deemed Necessary:

6. Adjournment

Motion made by Mary Stevens to adjourn the 12/14/20 Regular Meeting of the Open Space Advisory Committee. Seconded by Lindsay Floyd. All members voted in favor. Motion Carried.

Chairman William Hochholzer adjourned the December 14, 2020 OSAC Meeting at 6:15pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Jay Gigliotti