

Town of Colchester
Open Space Advisory Committee
Monday, September 9, 2019
Colchester Town Hall 6:00 PM
Regular Meeting Minutes

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COLCHESTER
2019 SEP 16 PM 4:44
JAY GIGLIOTTI

Members Present: Chairman Will Hochholzer, Vice-Chairman Ted Fuini, Nick Norton, Mary Stevens and Town Staff Jay Gigliotti

Members Absent: Kris Barnard, B.O.S. Liaison Rosemary Coyle

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Chairman William Hochholzer called the 9/9/19 OSAC Meeting to order at 6:00pm
2. **Citizens Comments:** None
3. **Approval of August 12, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes:**

Mary Stevens motioned to approve the 8/12/19 OSAC meeting minutes as written. Seconded by Vice-Chairman Ted Fuini. All members voted in favor. Motion Carried.

4. **Open Space:**

A. UCONN Brownfields Initiative

Jay Gigliotti explained the town received a preliminary selection into the UCONN Brownfields program. The town's goal in entering this program is for the development of an EPA grant application to fund Phase I & II testing on two proprieties. Currently the program is waiting to get under way (and the fall semester). When the students for the class have been given their assignments, the town will meet with them to discuss the process moving forward.

B. Source to Sea

Jay Gigliotti explained the town shall again be taking part in the Connecticut River Conservancy's Source to Sea program. This is a program where volunteers register with the CT River Conservancy to pick up trash within specific watersheds. This is the third year in a row where the town has worked with this program towards cleaning the Salmon River Watershed. This year, volunteers will focus on commuter parking lot on Route 149, the fishing areas on Comstock Bridge Road and the Meadow Brook Wildlife Management Area.

While scouting the prospective clean sites, staff witnessed the dumping of 56 tires off the bank at the commuter parking lot. This was alarming as this site was cleaned last year during the event. The amount of tires hints at the idea of a business dumping the tires in order to avoid paying disposal fees. Staff is working with the Salmon River Watershed Partnership, the CT Department of Transportation and the CT State Police to help resolve this issue. Hopefully measures can be put in place to help discourage the dumping of cast off materials at this and other sites.

C. Paper Mill Bridge

Recently, the water dam in the Jeremy River was removed, along with the mill building located on Paper Mill Road. After a couple years, town staff realized the river was eroding rock and other materials underneath the Paper Mill Road bridge. This was not supposed to happen and jeopardized the footings of the bridge. In response to the eroding materials, the Nature Conservancy hired a contractor to repair the erosion by placing stone and concrete in the area of the erosion. Jay Gigliotti explained the work was recently completed and provided pictures of the work. The decking of the bridge shall be replaced in the upcoming year and a committee has been formed to develop the plans for the town park at the previous mill site.

5. Any Other Business Deemed Necessary:

Jay Gigliotti explained he will taking courses over the next few months and will be unavailable for the OSAC meeting in October, November and December. The OSAC discussed whether to cancel or reschedule the meetings during the next three months.

Motion made by Mary Stevens to reschedule the October, November and December meetings of the OSAC from the second Monday of each month, to the first Thursday of each month at 6pm. Seconded by Nick Norton. All members voted in favor. Motion Carried.

6. Adjournment

Motion made by Vice-Chairman Ted Fuini to adjourn the 9/9/19 meeting of the Open Space Advisory Committee. Seconded by Mary Stevens. All Members Voted in Favor. Motion Carried.

Chairman William Hochholzer adjourned the September 9, 2019 OSAC meeting at 6:39pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Jay Gigliotti