

**Town of Colchester**  
**Open Space Advisory Committee**  
**Tuesday, September 12, 2023**  
**Colchester Town Hall 6:00PM**  
**Meeting Minutes**

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**Members Present:** Chairman William Hochholzer, Vice Chairman Ted Fuini, Kris Barnard, and Alexis Devlin. B.O.S. Liaison Rosemary Coyle attended via telephone

**Members Absent:** Mary Stevens and Sarah Smith Levine

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Chairman William Hochholzer called the 9/12/23 OSAC Meeting to order at 6:13PM
2. **Citizens Comments:** None
3. **Approval of the July 10, 2023, Meeting Minutes:**

Vice Chairman Ted Fuini motioned to approve the 7/10/23 meeting minutes as written. Seconded by Alexis Devlin. All members voted in favor. Motion Carried.

**4. Open Space:**

**A. Review of Town of Colchester Open Space Plan**

Chairman William Hochholzer suggested conducting a survey in the Town of Colchester about Open Space using the Town's Survey Tool, Survey Monkey. Chair on BOF has control of license. Chairman William Hochholzer will email request to First Selectman Andreas Biskibos. Would like to do email blast, post on town website & in Rivereast. Hard copies would be placed in the Town Clerk's office, Cragin Memorial Library and the Colchester Senior Center. Committee also suggested reviewing the survey with the Conservation Committee and asking them for input. BOS Liaison Rosemary Coyle shared Colchester population; 14,551 in 2000, 16,000 in 2010 and 15,555 in 2020.

Committee reviewed the definition of open space in the Town of Colchester, Open Space Plan. Chairman William Hochholzer suggested adding "strategic acquisition due to natural disaster" to the definition, committee to take under advisement. The committee agreed to review section 2 prior to the next meeting and come prepared with suggested edits for discussion.

Chairman William Hochholzer suggested inviting the Colchester Director of Parks Department, Tiffany Quinn, to the next meeting to share the Parks Department mission and vision so that the Committee can make any needed edits to the Open Space Plan supporting the Parks Department's mission.

**B. Discussion on open space parcel on Middletown Road**

The work on the parking lot for the open space parcel on Middletown Road has completed. The town still needs to install signage to comply with the grant.

BOS Liaison Rosemary Coyle to send the agreed upon naming policy for town property to the Open Space Committee for review. Vice Chairman Fuini made a motion that the Open Space Committee

initiate a petition of official naming: Pinebrook preserves donated by the Sablitz family. Alexis Devlin seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. Motion Carried.

Process is to get form from Town Clerk; solicit signatures from registered voters with a permanent residence in Colchester and file completed petition with the Colchester Town Clerk for review by the BOS.

**5. Any Other Business Deemed Necessary:**

**NIPS:** Distribution of funds are still undecided, BOS Liaison Rosemary Coyle suggested members send any suggestions for specific use cases related to Town clean-up to BOS. BOS Liaison Rosemary Coyle will send guidelines.

**GIS software:** BOS Liaison Rosemary Coyle will follow-up with Demian Sorrentino, Colchester Planning Director on status of retrieving former employee Jay Gigliotti's documents from his computer.

**6. Adjournment:**

**Motion made by Vice Chairman Ted Fuini to adjourn the 9/12/23 regular Meeting of the Open Space Advisory Committed. Seconded by Kris Barnard. All Members Voted in Favor. Motion Carried**

Chairman William Hochholzer adjourned the September 12, 2023, OSAC Meeting at 6:55PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Kris Barnard