



TOWN OF OLD LYME

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OPEN SPACE COMMISSION

Minutes – Regular Meeting

October 11, 2023, 5:00 p.m.

Mezzanine of the Memorial Town Hall

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Gregory Futoma called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.
2. **Attendance:** Present Board Members: Chair, Gregory Futoma, Vice Chair, Michael Aurelia, Secretary, Anne Redfield, Amanda Blair, Andrea Fenton, Evan Griswold (seated as a voting member).
Absent: Fred Behringer
3. **Approval of September 13, 2023 Meeting Minutes**
Amanda Blair made a MOTION to approve the September 13, 2023 meeting minutes and Evan Griswold SECONDED. DISCUSSION: None. Vote 5 ayes, 1 abstention, Anne Redfield. The MOTION PASSED.
4. **Public Comment:** None
5. **Open Space Business**
Chairman Greg Futoma asked the commission if they would consider meeting in the Mezzanine going forward into 2024. The room is available and all agreed they prefer the mezzanine space.
Chairman Greg Futoma distributed the Land Acquisition Protocol document. There was a brief discussion about the process and procedures.
 - a) **Horseneck Creek Landing**
Installation of Fencing: Mike Aurelia made a MOTION to approve potentially spending over \$2,000 to build the fence to protect the marsh at Horseneck Creek Landing and Anne Redfield SECONDED. DISCUSSION: Mike presented his estimate for installation. 310 ft. of split rail fence is required, material cost is between \$1,500 and \$1,800. Vote 5 ayes, 1 abstention, Amanda Blair. The MOTION PASSED. There was discussion centering around placement of the fence at an agreeable distance from abutting property; it was agreed that the land between the fence and the old roadway would be left in a natural state.
 - b) **Ferry Landing Wildlife Refuge, Anne Redfield**
Anne referred members to the Ferry Landing Refuge (FLWR) update that was circulated prior to the meeting, and said that she was still awaiting an update from the contractors on the phragmites treatment that had been scheduled for that morning. She let members know that one of the FLWR consultants would be conducting a drone flyover in the next few weeks, and that the FLWR summer intern would not likely have a school schedule that could accommodate any additional hours this fall.
 - c) **Land Steward Report, Michael Aurelia**
Mike is creating a time sheet supplement to track properties cared for by stewards.
 - d) **Champlain North**
Andrea Fenton gave Champlain North signs to Mike for stewards to install, including educational signage for the formica anthills.
 - e) **Commission File Storage**
There is a file cabinet available to Open Space at Town Hall. Greg continues to advocate for a cloud storage system.



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6. Community Outreach – Andrea Fenton

Andrea will be working with Mike on signage for Horseneck Creek Landing.

7. New Business –

a. Amanda Blair received an email from a resident who was concerned about private parties pruning along trails and using an ATV on town property. Greg will follow-up.

b. Rockfall Foundation Grant Applications are due in November; the commission discussed applying for funds to support educational materials or events for Horseneck Creek Landing.

8. Adjourn

Anne Redfield made a MOTION to adjourn at 7:00 and Evan Griswold SECONDED. DISCUSSION: None. Vote 5 ayes. The MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne McAuliffe, Clerk