

HOPEDALE OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION COMMITTEE REMOTE MEETING

February 08, 2021 MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Danielle Marini, CMRCP

Becca Solomon, Committee Chair

Tara Costanza, Vice Chair

Megan Piatt, Secretary

Julie Rinehart
Melissa Butler

NOT PRESENT:

David Sprowl

AGENDA ITEMS:

1. Approve Minutes
2. Recap Community Forum Notes
3. 7 Year Action Plan
4. ADA
5. Next Meeting
6. Adjourn

6:05 p.m. B. Solomon called meeting in session

1. Approve Minutes: T Costanza called for a motion to approve: Seconded: All in Favor
2. Recap Community Forum Notes
 - a. We learned that many members of the town are unclear as to what the OSRP committee is doing. It is also apparent that town members are unclear as to what land is town property vs. private land. Town members are unaware as to what the town can or cannot do with Privately owned land. The town is responsible to enforce traffic

Megan Piatt, OSRP Secretary

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impact, environmental impact and other rules when it comes to what a landowner wants to do with their land.

The OSRP committee will help build a guideline to assist other committees, specifically the master plan to explore the towns possibilities while creating and maintaining said action plan. This will help with acquiring grants and other funds for the town's use in the master planning committee and other committees within the town. The OSRP committee does not have any ownership or hold any power to make any decisions when it comes to what actually happens with land in Hopedale. Our agenda is to create an opportunity to foster relationships between boards to help with the future of the open space and recreation areas in the Town of Hopedale. We are here to educate town members and get community involvement.

- b. Chapter 61 was brought up. This is where land is owned privately or by the town but is leased out to the town or a private entity. For example, the Hopedale Golf Course has a 99-year lease with the town. Chapter 61 is often used in other towns where the town will lease land to farmers or visa versa.
 - c. Some people thought the survey may be skewed because so many young people took it. J. Rinehart brought up that many people boomerang back to Hopedale in their adult life. It was also brought up that all community members had the ability to participate in the survey.
 - d. Another concern brought up in both break out groups is the concern of flooding in the park and parklands. It was mentioned that parking is a huge issue as well around town. Walkability and bikability were also brought up as concerns within the town. Many attendees had children and were concerned about safety with biking and walking in town as there are not many sidewalks or many roads allowing for safe biking.
 - e. Friends of Hopedale Park Group: Nonprofit is being established again.
 - f. We discussed holding a second workshop to inform community members more on our goals, it is not required but could be worthwhile to recap. Our EEA Grant for master plan is due sooner rather than later, so we likely won't be able to do another workshop prior to our first submittal. We could add to our plan that we will hold one more community involvement event. It could be a kickoff event for the OSRP plan to inform residents what we have come up with.
 - g. We will continue to leave the survey open so that we can continue to have community engagement. It will go a long way with the state to show we are continuously trying to reach our community. Discussed in posting the survey in the Hopedale Paper or the Milford Daily news. M. Piatt mentioned neither paper has responded to previous requests.
3. 7 Year Action Plan:
- a. We need to finalize our action plan and finalize the objectives.
 - b. Send D. Marini any notes from the forum so we can condense like items.

- c. Next meeting, we will go over action plan and what committees we will need to start working with.
 - d. If we can reach out to other committees for their input on this plan prior to submittal, that would be great. If not, we can always add their input to the second revision with the state.
 - e.
- 4. ADA Assessment: Need to provide in our appendix any of our grievance policies/ procedures and public notification requirements. The town should have an ADA officer: Chris N. We will need a letter or document showing we have an ADA coordinator and the information above.
 - a. We will need to fill out the checklist for town owned recreation spaces. Will not need to do for areas that do not have public access.
- 5. Next Meeting: March 08, 2022 : Don't forget to send in photos of the town to D Marini.
- 6. Adjourn
7:28 Motion to end by B. Solomon: Seconded: All in favor