



TOWN OF NORTHBOROUGH Open Space Committee

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Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes May 20, 2019

Approved
7/22/19

Members Present: John Campbell, Chairman; Brian Belfer, Paul Tagliaferri, Leslie Harrison, Ashley Davies, Amy Poretsky

Others Present: Kathy Joubert, Town Planner

The Chair opened the meeting at 7:10pm.

Project Updates:

- 615 Howard Street
 - Two cost estimates were received from appraisers Gail Mann and Bill King. Town has worked with both candidates in the past.
 - G. Mann proposal of \$3600 for backland only
 - B. King proposal of \$2600 for backland only, \$3550 for subdivision option
 - A. Davies discussed development potential/probabilities for the parcel
 - J. Campbell discussed open space value of property to the town given its location to existing town owned conservation land
 - Decision made to request more detail from the appraisers. Mia McDonald will handle contacting appraisers for additional information.
- 302 Church Street
 - A. Davies and L. Harrison met with Mrs. Maney and her daughter to discuss open space protection options for the property and provided contacts for historic preservation options for the home
 - Family is open to all possibilities and will keep in contact with A. Davies
- Open Space and Recreation Plan
 - Contract has been signed with Central MA Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) and work will begin in June 2019. Approximately 10-12 month process
 - Open Space Committee will serve as oversight committee for the Plan
 - Joint meeting to kick-off public process will be scheduled for the fall and will include Open Space Committee, Recreation Committee, Conservation Commission, and Trails Committee
- Boroughs Loop Trail
 - Trails will be marked this spring/summer with Boroughs Loop Trail logo
 - Grand opening of the loop trail scheduled for October 4th with State dignitaries and October 5th for guided trail walks. Both events will occur in Northborough at Algonquin Regional High School at the trailhead for the Stirrup Brook Trail
 - Save the date cards will be distributed throughout all four towns in June
 - Website for the trail is <https://www.stvweb.org/BLT>
 - Volunteers needed to assist with both dates
- Aqueduct Bridge – potential trail over the bridge

- M. McDonald has sent letters to the utility company for cost estimate and time frame for moving utility lines over the bridge
- Yellick conservation area/DCR land off of Hudson Street
 - Trails Committee interested in replacing and upgrading footbridge over the Assabet River
 - Application has been submitted to DCR Fund Matching Program for the bridge project and also to explore potential of establishing a fenced dog park on DCR land at the Yellick conservation area sight
- Town Common
 - Work will begin after Memorial Day
- Master Plan
 - Draft will be reviewed by the Master Plan Steering Committee late summer/early fall and a presentation will be made to the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board later in the fall
- Consideration of Minutes
 - March 25, 2019
- Next Meeting
 - July 22, 2019

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted by,
Kathy Joubert
Town Planner