

AGENDA

New Salem Open Space and Recreation Plan Update Project

Monday, July 24th

6:00pm – 7:00pm

Meeting held virtually via Zoom

Join via weblink:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82638289393?pwd=VmR0YjBDZGZoQmxWQjdUbVFJMytNZz09>

Join via phone: + 1 929 205 6099, Meeting ID: 826 3828 9393, Passcode: 755613

- I. Welcome & Introductions
2. Overview of Project Scope of Work
 - a. Schedule
 - b. Expectations for work of FRCOG
 - c. Expectations for Committee work

Questions from committee

- FRCOG assisting past 2023 if more funding becomes available.
 - FRCOG can help the town with grant applications, use DLTA funds if the program continues and/or identify tasks the committee can do to help keep costs down
 - Stand alone MVP grant for OSRP not very feasible. Partnering with a neighboring town on a project that includes updating the OSRP may be competitive. Wendell and Shutesbury recently updated their OSRPs
 - This portion of the project is DLTA funded
 - district local technical assistance for RPAs across state to help municipalities with approved projects
 - Town needs updated OSRP for other grant applications
 - Committee agrees scope of work is good
3. Pre-existing Priorities
 - a. Committee Members share information to FRCOG about the town
 - i. A lot of open space – don't need more but recreation needs more of a focus

- ii. Management needs
 - I. Not many anyone can think of now
- iii. Programming in town
 - I. Recreational committee – not very active
- iv. CPA was not passed by the town in 2005 +/-
- v. 1794 meeting house could be a place for opportunity
- vi. Tennis courts, basketball courts, soccer fields etc. are now town owned
 - I. Used to be owned by New Salem Academy but these areas are in need of repair/upgrades

4. Discuss Survey and examples

- a. Add questions/modify questions
 - i. Programming
 - ii. Mention CPA to gauge interest?
 - iii. New Salem Academy facilities
 - I. List individually or lump together
 - iv. Some small land trust properties with trails
 - v. Incorporate a question about using tax payer money or clarify if funded by grants
 - vi. Concerns about particular places or issues within open space
 - 1. Invasive species
 - 2. Climate change
 - a. Shelburne question
 - b. Self-ranking/prioritization
 - vii. Concise
 - viii. Eliminate questions from other survey examples:
 - I. Eliminate rural character question if need to weed out questions
 - ix. Keep question from other survey:
 - 1. What areas of town do you use now?
 - 2. What places do you think are special?
- b. Survey distribution
 - i. Review progress
 - ii. Share with planning board after polished
 - iii. Survey out in mid-September

- I. Give 2-3 weeks of responses
 - iv. Heidi has idea on how to distribute
 - v. August 14th for draft Survey to Committee
- 5. Close meeting
 - a. Set recurring or next Committee meeting
 - I. 3rd Monday evening of the month
 - a. August 21st
 - b. September 25th
 - c. October 23rd
 - d. Check in with how these meetings are going and time around holidays
 - b. Next steps
 - i. Bill will email list of Open Space and Rec locations in town

Attendees: Heidi Bohn (on NS Planning Board), Josh Rapp (Con Com member), Bill Lafly (25 year resident, chair of assessor and representative of tree committee, worked on Con Com and past open space committee)