

TOWN OF NORTHFIELD
OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF OCTOBER 22, 2018

Present: Scott Haskins, Jared Paskavitch, Jon Cilley, Eliza Conde, Mark Hayes, Kevin Fife, Christina Beadle
Also Present: Glenn Smith, Steve Partridge, Stacey Partridge

The meeting was called to order at 6:01pm.

Conde/Beadle moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 24, 2018. **Motion passed.**

Committee members discussed future use for open spaces not previously discussed:

Arch Park – Committee members discussed the use of the park for winter tubing and sledding, concluding that the addition of a tow rope was not feasible. Members noted that the park could be used to a greater extent with better signage. Glenn reviewed the status of sidewalk leading to Elm Street.

Blais Conservation Area – Committee members agreed that the best use of this property is to keep it as a river access, with no additional uses. Members discussed the need for signs warning kayakers of downriver hazards.

Sand Pit/Town Beach/Glines Park – Glenn reviewed the possibility for trail development for hikers, bikers and/or horse use. Mark Hayes said he believed that bike use would not be optimal given its isolation from existing bike trails. Steve Partridge noted that the park is adjacent to trails currently used by horse riders, these trails could be tied in to the existing trails. Members discussed the use of the sand pit as a shooting range or archery area and decided that the option should not be pursued due to liability issues.

Granite Mills Conservation Area – Members decided that the use of this area could be enhanced with the addition of picnic tables and possible charcoal grills. They also discussed possible use of the existing shed, including converting the shed into an open air pavilion. It was noted that the shed was not in good condition and would not be a good candidate for re-purposing. Kevin Fife noted that a timber frame pavilion could be added.

Knowles Pond Conservation Area – Scott Haskins reviewed the parking problem in this area, Christina Beadle noted that vandalism in the conservation area continues to be a problem. Users have spray painted trees and rocks, the number of campfires has increased and there is more illegal camping.

Richard Smart Conservation Area – Members agreed that the area would benefit from

better signage and advertising.

Sotir Conservation Area – Members agreed that parking is a problem and a park map is needed. Eliza Conde noted that the Rand Road parking lot can be used to access the Sotir Conservation Area.

Boat Launch – Members agreed that the area does not need improvements or upgrade.

Winnepesaukee River Trail – It was noted that if the Partridge campground is constructed the use of the trail will increase.

Committee members reviewed the proposed community survey and agreed that it should be circulated through hard copy and electronically, from a period of mid-November through mid-January.

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 7:07pm.

Approved: November 26, 2018