

**TOWN OF NORTHFIELD
OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Meeting of June 18, 2018

Present: Scott Haskins, Eliza Conde, Jared Paskavitch, Jason Sterner, Brittini Stewart, Christina Beadle, Kevin Fife, Sheryl Tedford

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm

1. Election of Chair and Vice Chair, Clerk

Paskavitch/Beadle moved to nominate Scott Haskins as Chair. There being no other nominations members voted to elect Scott Haskins as Chair of the Open Space Committee.

Committee members reviewed possible meeting schedule dates and tentatively chose to meet on the 4th Monday of the month, pending confirmation with Jon Cilley.

2. Review minutes of prior meetings

Beadle/Fife moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 23, 2018. **Motion passed.**

Conde/Beadle moved to approve the minutes of the site visit of May 20, 2018. **Motion passed.**

3. Debriefing - Site Visits

Members discussed impressions and preliminary ideas resulting from recent site visits, received updates on recent activities and discussed the Stevens Road property.

Members reviewed the proposed work plan.

Scott Haskins discussed the plan to remove the fence from the skate park, committee members reviewed the proposal.

Glenn Smith informed the committee members of the ramp recently erected at the informal pump track west of Surette Park and informed the members that he will recommend to the Selectmen that the area be acknowledged as a town facility.

Eliza Conde inquired as to the status of the Stevens Road property. Committee members discussed the matter, including the many old foundations on the area, access to the Merrimack River, the natural appeal of the area and the problem of lack of access from a public road.

Pines Park discussion points included:

- Potential uses of 'Pines 3' portion of the park as a playground or have it remain a forested buffer.
- Potential alternate uses of the horse ring property. Members noted that the facility is rarely used and that a possible alternate use could provide a better value. Possible alternate uses include playground, parking area, dog park, ice rink.
- Use of the volleyball court and the area around the volleyball court.
- Possible location of a pump track in the shaded portion of the park.
- Consideration of removal of many of the trees at Pines Park.

Surette Park discussion points included:

- Use of the field area as a girls softball field
- Locating a farmers market in the field area. Glenn was asked to research the economics of farmers markets in the area.

Arch Park discussion points included:

- Sledding/Skiing, possible installation of a rope tow
- Picnicking
- Special events such as weddings, etc.

Granite Mills Conservation Area discussion points included:

- Installing additional picnic tables, possibly converting the existing building to an open air picnic area.
- Installing grills

Members noted that installing signs around town guiding people toward parks and open spaces could be helpful.

Blais Riverview Conservation Area discussion points included:

- Possible installation of picnic tables
- Jason Sterner advised that signs be installed informing kayakers of rough water downstream from the river access.

The next meeting was scheduled for July 23rd at 6:30pm. Members to meet at Knowles Pond to visit the Knowles Pond and Sotir conservation areas and the sand pit parcel.

Haskins/Paskavitch moved to appoint Christina Beadle as Vice-Chair. **Motion passed.**

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 8:54pm.

Minutes Approved August 27, 2018