

MINUTES

Town of Gardiner Open Space Commission

August 2, 2021 5:00pm – 6:30pm

Format: In Person meeting Town Hall

1. Attendance: in person: Kellie George, Tara Hoey, Jean-Ann McGrane, Laura Rose, Laura Wong-Pan; Kay Hoiby (by zoom)
2. Opening – Quote
Approval of June Minutes – to be provided.
Discussion of Agenda –no changes
Next Meeting – Regular Schedule – September 13 Time: 6 p.m.
3. GOSC – Public Outreach and Education Program
Feedback and Follow up to June sessions:
Laura WP spoke with Irwin Kanter who had questions and may be interested in donating a conservation easement; she sent an application to him and has not yet heard back from him. One question he had was if the land was adjacent to Minnewaska would GOSC be interested. He wanted to know what options he had. One other person was interested and Kay will follow up with him.
Preparation for Fall
Laura Rose stated that one of the fall sessions should include laying out the NRI maps so attendees can walk from one to the next, with a list of conservation values in hand, and check off the values for their own properties. Tara will request from the Town a list of attendees from the June sessions who registered with the Town for the zoom meetings. Laura and Tara will work up an outline for a map education program.

Meeting with Farmers for Comp Plan Input
Jean-Ann attended the meeting David Church held with farmers to discuss the revised Comprehensive Plan and will participate in a September meeting. Jean Ann will contact Scenic Hudson for information about funding for farmland protection and we need to look into the Ag and Markets Grant program. She noted that Gardiner used to be active in the Grange Organization but is not now and so the farmers stated at the meeting on the CP that they don't have a structural organization to work together on issues.
4. Community Preservation Advisory Board

There was a discussion about reaching out to Ulster County Tax foreclosure office before the property gets to public auction. Tara to follow up with New Paltz to get contact information for acquisition procedures they follow. Jean to reach out to the Gardiner Town Supervisor Marybeth

about where there is support from the Town Board for a Community Preservation Advisory Board and then we can plan accordingly.

5. Conservation Easement Monitoring

- a. Contact Building Inspector to see status of monitoring
- b. Identify individual or organization to conduct annual monitoring for Town. Get estimate for 2022 Budget.

Discussion about contacting Wallkill Valley Land Trust (WVLT) to give the GOSC a price for annual monitoring of the Town's conservation easements. Need locations and number of properties. Need to pick priority properties for baseline assessments and monitoring. Laura Rose volunteered to reach out to Kelly Dobbins-Morris and WVLT for estimates.

6. 2022 Budget Request

Discussion on budget included requesting: \$1,000 for three major events (suggested Gardiner Cupcake Festival, Gardiner Day, Moosick Festival at Kiernan Farms); \$1,000 for a fundraiser base (suggested a plen air art auction).

7. Revisions for Town law regarding ECC and GOSC responsibilities

- NRI: ECC wants to be responsible for keeping this updated and accessible
Linda to circulate memo to Laura Walls from 2019 to next meeting for discussion; ECC is reviewing and we expect feedback from them soon.

8. Need for recommendations to Town Board for procedure for review and acceptance of donated land.

Linda will draft language for Town Board to review.

9. Ongoing Items

- a. NRI - GIS consultant RFQ: Jean reported that a GIS RFQ will be out the end of August and hoping for a September hire.
- b. Funding research: Tara and Kay received access to Gateway and an application for the Ag and Markets conservation easement funding program.
- c. Comprehensive Plan: the revised CP will has an agricultural section, which the current CP does not. Open Space Plans and Ag Plans sometimes conflict. There is a meeting tomorrow night on the CP. Tara will send what she has to Jean so she can raise it with David Church.

Carrying Issues

Review of Proposals for donations of privately owned parcels
Referred by Andy Lewis:- SBL 93.1-4-46 Pioneer Lane .39 acres
Referred by Supervisor: SBL 93.8 - 2-3 Forest Glen 1 acre 5.