

Northfield Open Space Meeting

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

Town Hall

Present: Matt Diluzio, Chair, Sarah Kerns, Joanne McGee, Bob Perlman, Sue Space

Absent: None

1. Agenda approved.
2. Minutes: The September 12, 2023, minutes were approved. Sue/Bob 4-0
3. Community Preservation Funds: Sue Space, the OS delegate to the Community Preservation Committee, reported that \$2,859 remains in our Mill Brook project account. These funds were part of the project that included bridge and trail work last summer. This money could be used for more work in the Mill Brook area or transferred to other open space work. *Sue will check with Julia about the potential new bridge.*
Conservation Commission is taking care of the hogweed.
4. Neighborhood Grant: Joanne and Julia met with Sarah Wells and Aaron Nelson, Mount Grace conservation managers.
5. Trails Capacity Grant Program: Mallory Sullivan, Northfield's grant administrator, sent word of a trails grant program with awards from \$2,000 to \$15,000. It is possible that this grant could be used for part of a new bridge at Mill Brook.
6. Mass Pollinator Network: Sarah described a "pollinator patch" program which was discussed at the Economic Development Committee as it searches for signature issues to attract people to Northfield. *Sarah will get more information from Jinx Hastings, and Joanne suggested Sarah talk with Martha Tenny at the Garden Club.*
7. Member comments: *Joanne* announced that Katie Lincoln who visited the Calvin Swan site with Professor Eric Johnson of UMASS is embarking on a research project of mapping the site as part of a graduate program. Bee Jacque of the Historical Commission will take the lead. Joanne passed around examples of LIDAR mapping.
 - *Joanne* also distributed an updated list of all conservation restrictions in Northfield which included monitoring responsibilities. She gave Sarah enough copies for the Conservation commission.
 - *Bob* met with Sam Richardson about town trails. Steve Malsch told Bob there was no problem about water concerns at Old Turnpike Rd. *Bob will talk with the Highway Dept about potential parking at the trail head. He will also talk with Andrew Vernon about monitoring.*
 - *Sarah* took a GIS training course and learned about "buckthorn busters". *She will send us the link.*
8. Next meeting: The next meeting will be Tuesday, November 28, 2023, at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted, Joanne McGee, Secretary



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