

Middletown Open Space & Fields Committee

Minutes of Meeting

January 20, 2010

A meeting of the Open Space & Fields Committee took place on Wednesday, January 20, 2010 at 5 pm at the Middletown Town Hall. The meeting was called to order by Mason Hawes, Chairman.

Member Present: Dick Barker, Cheryl Boergesson, Nicholas Coogan, Kimberly Kestler, John Pinto, Read Saunders, Ralph Thomas and Anne Wilson

Members Absent: Eileen Hadfield, Steve Ponte

Ex-officio Members:

Present: Richard Cambra, Town Council; Robert Johnson, Conservation Committee

Absent: Dick Adams, Planning Board

Present: Shawn Brown, Town Administrator

Agenda

Review and approval of minutes: The minutes of the November 18, 2009 meeting of the committee were approved as amended. These minutes were read and approved as drafted at the January 20, 2010 meeting of the committee.

Executive Session: The scheduled Executive Session was not held.

Old Business:

„X Property Updates:

- o Mr. Brown advised the committee that an easement was being finalized to access Linden Park from the rear (east).**
- o Mr. Brown informed the committee that a request for proposals was being drafted that would solicit proposals for a study on the development of what is being referred to as the Coddington Development Center (CDC). Encompassed within the CDC is the area from the former JFK School to the north to the former Navy Lodge property to the south.**

„X Recreation Master Plan Update: Mr. Hawes advised that five committee members attended the initial meeting convened by the company developing the plan.

„X Comprehensive Plan Update: There was no discussion of this agenda item.

„X Stewardship: Mr. Cambra indicated that he believed stewardship of town parks could be enhanced through a park warden or other program that increased individual oversight of parks. Mr. Brown advised that he would bring models of existing programs to the next meeting. It was also agreed to place this item on the February agenda, with consideration being given to establishing a

subcommittee to examine enhancing stewardship of town parks.

„X Nomination and Election of Officers: Read Saunders was nominated and elected as chairperson; Mason Hawes was nominated and elected as vice chairperson; and Ralph Thomas was nominated and elected as recording secretary. Each will serve a two-year term in accordance with the committee's bylaws.

Action Items to Forward to the Town Council: None

New Business:

„X Community Gardening/Farming: A discussion of the various types of community gardening/farming and the prerequisites for successful programs was held. It was decided that community gardening/farming would be addressed as an agenda item at the February meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm.

Ralph Thomas

Recording Secretary