



TOWN OF PALMER

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OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday September 2, 2014 – 7:00 PM

Members Present: Angela Panaccione, Conservation Agent
Jim Ostrout, Recreation Director
Alice Davey, Community Development Director
Donald Blais Jr, Town Council
Dave Cotter, Trail Committee

Members Absent: Linda Leduc, Town Planner
Bonnie Weeks, Building Inspector/ADA Coordinator
Tharyn Nein-Large, Conservation Commission
Michael Marciniac, Chair of Planning Board

Meeting Opens: 7:00 PM – Angela Panaccione

Minute Approval

Motion by Alice Davey to approve the minutes from July 8, 2014 as written
Motion Seconded by Donald Blais
No further discussion – Vote Taken: 5-0-0

Motion by Donald Blais to approve the minutes from July 22, 2014 as written
Motion Seconded by Dave Cotter
No further discussion – Vote Taken: 5-0-0

Motion by Alice Davey to approve the minutes from August 12, 2014 as written
Motion Seconded by Dave Cotter
No further discussion – Vote Taken: 4-0-1 (Donald Blais abstains)

Present Final Draft OSRP:

Angela Panaccione presented a power point presentation on the plan to public at the meeting. The presentation included survey results, analysis of needs and the seven year action plan.

Open Public Comment

Several town residents were present at the hearing, as well as Charles Blanchard Town Manager and Andrew Golas, Assistant Town Manager. Overall, there was strong public support for the

plan. Many residents expressed their approval of the plan and thanked the Committee for their hard work and effort. No specific or written comments were submitted.

The main discussion of the evening centered on renovations to Burleigh Park. Residents offered suggestions to the Committee of further improvements that could occur there. These included:

- Form a Sub-Committee strictly dealing with Burleigh Park renovations
- Develop a brochure for Burleigh listing activities available
- Re-develop/mark trails there and make a trail map
- Fix up Pavilion, picnic area and horse shoe pits
- Re-open restroom facilities
- Increase night security at the park to deter vandalism
- Promote what is there
- Make ADA accessible walking trail there for both disabled and elderly
- Add more park benches

Other general Public Comments Included:

- All age groups are well represented within the plan
- Advisory Committee should meet monthly, in the evenings and invite the public. This will help build a volunteer base for Open Space protection
- Important the Community stays involved and has the opportunity to do so
- Important to secure grants and funding, and especially important to work toward the passage of the Community Preservation Act (CPA)

Meeting Adjourns: 8:00 PM