

**TOWN OF GRAFTON
OPEN SPACE COMMISSION MEETING
January 18, 2017
Meeting Minutes**

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Chairman Stemper called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

B. Present:

Chairman Patrick Stemper
Commissioner Julia McNally
Commissioner Marjie Tomter
Commissioner Jeffrey Thoma

Absent:

Alt. Commissioner Dorothy Boyer
Commissioner Dan Vogel
Commissioner Neal Hobbs

Clerk/Planner Amanda Schaefer

II. VERIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETINGS LAW

1. Clerk/Planner Schaefer confirmed compliance with the Open Meetings Law.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

IV. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

1. ACTION: Chairperson Stemper moved to adopt the agenda as amended (New Business B as first item), seconded by Commissioner McNally. Motion carried 4-0.

B. THANK YOU, STEVE WILKINSON, FOR YOUR PRESENCE WITH US AND ALSO YOUR SERVICE. YOU WILL BE MISSED.

V. REVIEW AND APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

1. All minutes next meeting due to lack of quorum this meeting – April 2016, October 2016, and January 2017.

VI. RESIDENT CORRESPONDENCE/PERSONS WISHING TO BE HEARD - NONE

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion and possible action regarding a request from the Open Space Commission to investigate potential developer incentives for Legacy Trail easement donations

- 1. This item was discussed under the Future of the Open Space Commission.**
- 2. Tangible evidence will be brought forward by the OSC**
- 3. ACTION: NO ACTION TAKEN.**

B. Discussion and possible action regarding WisDOT Rustic Roads designation

- 1. Maple Road, Ulaio Parkway, and Lakeshore were discussed**
- 2. More information will come in future meetings.**
- 3. ACTION: Commissioner McNally moved to table the item until April, seconded by Commissioner Tomter. Motion carried 4-0.**

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and possible action regarding 2017 OSC Efforts & Funding Priorities

- 1. IMBD will be on May 20th – partnering with City of Port, Village of Newburg, and other larger agencies at Forest Beach Preserve**

2. The goal is to get the word out!
 3. Other items were discussed under "Future of the Open Space Commission"
 4. **ACTION: NO ACTION TAKEN.**
- B. Discussion and possible action regarding the Future of the Open Space Commission**
1. Chairman Stemper shared information about recent Board discussion, as well as Dan Vogel's thoughts on his position on the Open Space Commission.
 2. The OSC is in somewhat of a "limbo" mode until the Board makes a decision
 3. The OSC could possibly wait for future meetings until the Board makes a decision, per Chairman Stemper
 4. Commissioner Vogel feels that he would rather wait until the Board makes a decision to move forward as an Open Space Commissioner
 5. Per Chairman Stemper, perhaps the OSC just meets when the Board directs the OSC to do so
 6. Commissioner Tomter shared the thought that the OSC still needs to advocate for Open Space, per the Ordinance
 7. There are still things going on, per Commissioner Tomter, that we need to address
 8. Per Commissioner Tomter, perhaps the OSC is more of an advocacy group versus a "meet every 3 months" type of committee
 9. Commissioner Tomter shared ideas about building a database, using money to fund the purchase of development rights
 10. Commissioner McNally shared the fact that there needs to be more communication between committees so everyone is on the same page; the OSC has not been included in some of the recent efforts
 11. Commissioner McNally and Commissioner Tomter continued to share the fact that OSC needs to stay alive to keep these ideas alive
 12. We need to look what other communities are doing
 13. Chairman Stemper shared the thought that he agrees with Commissioner Vogel
 14. Commissioners Tomter and McNally noted that we need more tools and someone to take leadership at the Board level
 15. Chairman Bartel offered the thought that the original Ordinance was drafted under duress; there was a referendum that failed; then there were extreme limitations noted in the text; there was no support for a recent proposed amendment to the ordinance
 16. Chairman Bartel stated that good things are Lion's Den, Bratt Woods, Bird City, etc
 17. Chairman Bartel stated that there needs to be a mission with tangible, obtainable goals
 18. Chairman Stemper shared the tipping point for him – when the developer on Falls Road did not want to donate an easement for the Trail; there were no options for incentives, and it would have been the perfect property to connect to the existing Trail
 19. The trail sections near Pflieger and Curtis were discussed; perhaps doing something there would spark some support
 20. Discussion continued
 21. The OSC will investigate Mequon and Cedarburg's details and incentives for trail development and report back to the OSC and other committees with evidence
 22. Future development of the Trail was discussed
 23. Commissioners Tomter and McNally shared that Waterstone neighbors may want an easement
 24. Commissioner Tomter suggested purchasing a lot in the new Falls Road development and use the Shared Driveway as a connection piece
 25. Discussion continued
 26. The thought that some are quick to look back instead of forward with a vision can be very limiting to new ideas

27. Change is difficult
28. Next steps were discussed – Commissioners McNally and Tomter will follow through on the ideas; something tangible needs to be found
29. A list will be prepared for Peg Kohring that includes owners of large tracts of land
30. Discussion continued.
31. **ACTION: NO ACTION TAKEN.**

IX. FUNDING UPDATE

1. Clerk/Planner Schaefer gave an update to the fund balance, per the Quick Books Report. The current balance is at **\$18,355.00.**

X. ADJOURN

1. **ACTION: Commissioner Tomter moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Thoma. Motion carried 4-0.**

Respectfully submitted,
Amanda L. Schaefer, Clerk/Planner