

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

Thursday May 13 @ 5:30 City Hall Annex

Attendance

Committee members-John McElhenny -Chairperson, Susan Hedman, Noel Mann, Charles Crowley, City Staff-Steve Winslow and Gregg Cademetora

- 1.) Dan Morris feels badly about missing meetings due to change in his work. He has proposed three options, 1. Resign committee, 2. stay on and keep connected w/ email 3. stay on as CPA agent to Open Space. John McElhenny said he will talk w/ Dan about his preference and if our meetings were to start at 6 pm might this make his attendance possible.
- 2.) Nick Holland- moving to Gloucester and may be interested in joining open space- his work gives him lots of experience that could be beneficial to the committee.
- 3.) CPA- recommendations Charlie suggests we develop clear guidelines for our support of projects so we can adequately evaluate proposals as they come along. Also very concerned about projects that will take multiple years and possibility tie up resources.

Charlie proposed development of a Draft Criteria for review of possible land acquisitions-reviewing other possibilities short of purchase-such as conservation restrictions

- 4.) GRANTS- Women's softball raised \$400 toward improvements at Mattos, 60-90 thousand estimated to repair lights, Patti Amaral is working at a grant proposal through the Granite State Electric's Field of Dreams program.
PARC- Steve Winslow attended training- Will be submitting Burhams' Field improvement proposal due July 14- Newell Stadium improvements- Facility controlled by city not schools hoping to use artificial turf which has a 15/20 year life span.

Mass DEP Natural Resources Grant- Burham's Field-will need a community meeting with babysitting.

- 5.) Compost Facility – pollution and compromises access to Dog Town
- 6.) Community Garden- 18 gardeners have started the season at the newly formed community garden- interest was very strong, John McElhenny spearheaded this endeavor. Building Center donated material
- 7.) Mass in Motion funding has been continued
- 8.) Susan Hedman brought up the issue of doing more in the city to promote nature & get the DPW to use good environmental practices and would like to talk about this next meeting.

Meeting adjourned

Minutes submitted by Susan Hedman