

Minutes of the Open Space Committee Meeting July 11, 2022

Members Present: Aaron Dollar, Michael Drew, Nancy Gorski, David Hyman, Heather Greenaway, John Mancini, Michael Parahus, Stephanie Warren.

Members Absent: Clark Judge

Visitor: David Gumbart:

The meeting was called to order by chairman A. Dollar at 6.05pm

Review of the Plan of Conservation :

S. Warren gave an overview of the sections of the Town's Plan of Conservation (2018). She drew attention to the map of existing open space (p.26) and to sections of particular relevance to this committee's work:

- Pages 23-24 on soils unsuitable for development and those areas with unique or fragile lands
- Pages 63- 64. Open space goals
- Page 73-77. The plan's recommendations for open space preservation.

Review and discussion of principles and priorities for open space:

David Gumbart, President of the Killingworth Land Conservation Trust, shared conclusions and recommendations from the 2005 Open Space Committee, on which he served. These included :

- Criteria for consideration when recommending parcels for conservation
- Appropriate criteria for conservation grant applications

He discussed the role of the KLCT and its possible liaison with the OSC and emphasized the importance of confidentiality in considering parcels for conservation.

In response to a question from A. Dollar, he listed funding options for open space preservation:

- State funding – OSWA program (up to 50% of the purchase price)
- Federal – Land & Water Conservation Fund

There being no further business, a motion by A. Dollar, seconded by M. Parahus at 7.45 pm adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted:

Heather Greenaway