

# Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Monday, March 28, 2016

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Town Manager's Conference Room, Ipswich Town Hall

## Attendees:

### Members:

Casey Wright  
Andy Brengle  
David Feldman  
Ralph Williams  
Katie Hone

### Absent:

Wayne Castonguay  
Will Holton

### Staff:

Michelle Vaillancourt

### Associates:

Sissy ffolliott  
Carolyn Britt

### Planning Board Liaison:

Cathy Chadwick

### Visitors:

Ken Swenson, Athletic Fields sub-committee  
Kerrie Bates, Athletic Fields Sub-committee  
Chris LaPointe, Essex County Greenbelt Association  
Hugh O'Flynn, Athletic Fields Sub-committee

## Meeting Agenda

1. Citizen queries – there were no citizen queries
2. Minutes approval from February meeting – David Feldman moved and Ralph Williams seconded to approve the February executive session and meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Report from Open Space Manager  
Michelle Vaillancourt reported that the Board of Selectmen voted to strike the Article to reduce the Open Space Bond Authorization by \$1 million from the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Thank you to all who could attend the meeting and especially to Wayne Castonguay and Casey Wright for speaking to the issue at the hearing.

4. Subcommittee to draft a process document for securing athletic field properties

Casey Wright suggested that the committee establish a process to educate and remind the selectmen on a regular basis about the process of this committee and its advisory status. Wright mentioned that comments by selectmen at the recent BoS meeting, as well as those of the Town Manager, indicated a misunderstanding of this committee's role vis-a-vis the identification and acquisition of properties for athletic field use. Wright suggested members volunteer to work with Wayne to schedule and attend executive sessions with the BoS to provide updates and to remind them of the priority list of properties voted on at Town Meeting.

5. Items not reasonably anticipated:

- Kathy Chadwick announced that Senator Bruce Tarr and Representative Brad Hill will be attending the next Agricultural Committee Meeting on April 6 to discuss agricultural legislation and invited anyone interested to attend.
- Kathy Chadwick also announced that the Farmers Market date and time will be changing this year to Saturday mornings from 9:00am to 12:00pm.
- Finally Kathy Chadwick shared that she will be resigning from the Planning Board but will continue to be the liaison to the Open Space Committee.
- Chris LaPointe gave an update on the Essex County Greenbelt Association's 340 acre Sagamore Hill project. He is optimistic that they will raise the remaining \$500,000 needed to for the project

5. Executive Session for the purposes of land acquisition – Andy Brengle moved and Ralph Williams seconded to enter into Executive Session. The motion carried unanimously by roll call vote at 7:22 PM.

6. Executive Session was adjourned at 8:43 PM and the committee continued with the regular meeting. It was announced that the next meeting of the Open Space Committee will be on April 25 and that the time will be moved to 7:00 PM David Feldman moved and Ralph Williams seconded to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:45.