



## NEWINGTON OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

**SPECIAL MEETING**  
Thursday, January 14, 2016

**Conference Room L-101, Lower Level**  
131 Cedar Street, Newington, CT 06111

6:30 p.m.

### A G E N D A

- I. **ROLL CALL**
- II. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2016:**
  - A. Chairman
  - B. Vice Chairman
  - C. Secretary
- III. **NEW BUSINESS:**
  - A. Discussion of Duties and Opportunities
- IV. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- V. **COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS**
- VI. **SETTING OF 2016 MEETING DATES**
- VII. **ADJOURN**

Submitted,

Craig Minor, AICP  
Town Planner

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NEWINGTON LAND RECORDS

2015 DEC 30 PM 1:19

BY *Tanya D. Lane*  
TOWN CLERK

## Establishment of Open Space Committee Discussions of July 7, 2015

- I. The Charge of the Open Space Committee
  - a. Establish an Open Space Committee to assist the Town Council in its deliberations and make recommendations to said Council on the acquisition, protection, inventory, economic and social impact to the Town of Newington on \_\_\_\_\_ date.
  - b. Make recommendations on how to best utilize and maintain (all different types of) open space.
- II. Appointments to the Open Space Committee
  - a. Establish an Open Space Committee consisting of seven (7) to assist the Town Council in its deliberations and make recommendations to said Council on \_\_\_\_\_ date.
  - b. Establish an Open Space Committee consisting of two (2) Town Council members as well as five (5) citizens to assist the Town Council and make recommendations to said Council on \_\_\_\_\_ date.
- III. The term of Open Space Committee members will be four (4) years staggered with three (3) citizens serving four (4) year terms and two (2) citizens serving three (3) year terms
  - a. Impact on property acquisition with or without external funding sources.
  - b. Integrate timing so that preliminary acquisition of said property can be funded appropriately.
  - c. Report back to Town Council.
- IV. Report to Town Council
  - a. Report on acquisition, property values, appraisals and methods of purchase to start. The Town Council members will serve two (2) years or length of their elected term.
- V. Establish criteria for protecting vacant properties for public open space uses
  - a. Protecting natural resources.
  - b. Protecting aesthetics of the community.
  - c. Establishing greenways and trail systems.
  - d. Passive or active recreation uses.
  - e. Preservation of historical assets.
- VI. Acquisition costs of said property
  - a. properties in Executive Session as permitted in Chapter III section 1-1.8a(e) of the Connecticut General Statutes. Acquisition negotiations should be preliminary in Executive Session as negotiating strategy should remain confidential with the Town.
  - b. Appraisals and property values can remain confidential before purchase agreements are executed.
  - c. Public hearings of a financial and planning nature must be considered before final valuations are offered to potential landowners.

AGENDA ITEM: IV.D.

DATE: 9-08-15

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, the Newington Town Council desires to replace the existing Open Space Committee; and,

WHEREAS, in order to appoint a new Open Space Committee, the current Open Space Committee must be disbanded;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Newington Town Council hereby disbands the existing Open Space Committee and creates and replaces it with a new Open Space Committee in accordance with the following provisions:

1. The Open Space Committee shall provide assistance to the Town Council, as determined by the Town Council, in those matters associated with Open Space issues as they come before the Town Council.
2. It is declared that protecting natural resources, protecting aesthetics of the community, establishing greenways and trail systems, preserving passive and active recreation areas, preservation of historical assets and similar issues are desirable for the community; and
3. Upon request from the Town Council, the Open Space Committee shall make recommendations to the Town Council as to Open Space implications on such issues as the acquisition of real property, the sale of Town property, the protection and utilization of existing Town owned property, the financial impact of property acquisition with or without external funding sources and potential use of the Capital Improvement Fund.
4. The Open Space Committee shall consist of seven (7) members. Two (2) members shall be current Town Council members and the remaining five members shall be residents of the Town. All members shall be appointed by the Town Council. All vacancies shall be filled by the Town Council.
5. The terms of the resident members of the Open Space Committee shall be four (4) years or until their successors are qualified and appointed, and shall be staggered. Initial appointments by the Town Council shall be: three (3) residents to be appointed to four (4) year terms; two (2) residents to be appointed to three (3) year terms. The two (2) current Town Council members appointed serve until their successors are qualified and appointed.

MOTION BY: \_\_\_\_\_

SECONDED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

VOTE: \_\_\_\_\_

## **MINUTES FROM OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE DISCUSSION OF FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 2015**

Present: Mayor Steven Woods, Town Manager John Salomone, Councilman Dave Nagel, Bernadette Conway

Discussion took place regarding how many members to have on the newly appointed Open Space Committee (OSC). It was decided to have 7 members total: 2 appointees from the Council with 5 citizens. The Chair should be a member of the public.

The terms will be staggered with 3 members of the public serving four year terms, 2 members of the public serving 3 year terms and the Town Council members serving 2 years of the length of their term.

The Town Council will make appointments taking recommendations from the Democratic Town Committee and the Republican Town Committee. The majority party will appoint 3 members and the minority party will appoint 2 members.

Discussion took place regarding the charge of the OSC. A memorandum dated December 2, 2009 from John Salomone and Ed Meehan with an outline of the committee was provided. The following changes were made and/or discussed:

- I. Define the committee's charge – kept the same
- II. Determine committee membership composition – change to 7 members
- III. Establish criteria for protecting vacant properties for public open space uses – kept the same
- IV. Determining Committee work schedule and reporting timelines – remove a.
- V. Acquisition costs of said property – kept the same
- VI. Report to Town Council – kept the same

Further discussion to be had at the next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, July 7<sup>th</sup> at 3:45.

Additions:

Seek out/locate open space parcels that are and/or become available  
How to use open space and make recommendations to the Town Council  
Define different types of open space; open space, greenway, rail system  
Maintaining mountain and/or creating trails and adding signage,

Town of Newington  
Boards, Commissions and Committees

Open Space Committee 2015

Member	Address	Contact	Member Role	Term Starts	Term Ends	Party
Anest, Carol Anne	30 Harding Avenue Newington, CT 06111	Work Phone Home Phone E-Mail 860-666-4708 caanest@cox.net	Representing Town Council	11-24-2015	11-14-2017	D
Budrejko, Gail	21 Isabelle Terrace Newington, CT 06111	Work Phone Home Phone E-Mail	Representing Town Council	11-24-2015	11-14-2017	R
Conway, Bernadette R.	177 Hartford Avenue Newington, CT 06111	Work Phone Home Phone E-Mail 860-666-9391	Member	10-13-2015	11-30-2019	D
Dunning, Sharon	528 Churchill Drive Newington, CT 06111	Work Phone Home Phone E-Mail	Member	10-27-2015	11-30-2017	D
Vacant, Position		Work Phone Home Phone E-Mail	Member	12-17-2015	11-30-2019	
Wojtowicz, Carol	50 Brookdale Avenue Newington, CT 06111	Work Phone Home Phone E-Mail 860-6670-4440	Member	10-13-2015	11-30-2019	D

**Notes:**

7 Members: 2 NTC & 5 Residents  
Appt. by town Council  
Resolution 2015-86 passed 9/8/15