



# **TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY**

## *Land Preservation & Open Space Acquisition Commission*

### **MINUTES**

#### **Land Preservation & Open Space Acquisition Commission Meeting Wednesday, June 1, 2022 – 7:00 p.m. In Person- Upstairs, Sherpardson, Upstairs Dining Room**

**Present:** Ray Pietrorazio  
Malcolm Todt  
Paul Bialobreski  
Jim Lawlor  
Ericka Carrington  
George Gabrielson

**Also Present:** Katie Burdick, Recording Clerk

**Public:** None

**Absent:** Anne Paolino

#### **1. Call to Order with Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mr. Pietrorazio with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Pietrorazio asked for a moment of silence in the honor of John Cookson who passed tragically.

#### **2. Approval of April 6, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Bialobreski MOTIONED to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2022 meeting;  
SECONDED by Mr. Todt. Unanimous approval. Mrs. Carrington abstained due to absence.

#### **3. Old Business**

##### **a. Friends of Fenn's Farm Update-**

Mr. Pietrorazio updated the commission that the fundraising for the Friends of Fenn's Farm Cupola project has ended. Mr. Pietrorazio stated they did not meet the set goal, but they raised about \$5000 for the project and also received the donated weathervane from the Gabrielson family.

##### **b. Fenn's Farm Update-**

A group discussion ensued about the working relationship with the Department of Public works. Dan Norton requested a list of priority items that the DPW needs to completed.

Mr. Pietrorazio stated the looming and seeding projects were still pending and he was waiting for a date from DPW for completion. The chemical treatment for the

ash trees is also still pending completion. Mr. Pietrorazio stated the failing stone wall was also on the list of items for the DPW to complete.

The Commissioners discussed the barns needing repainting and the process to obtaining bids for the project. The Commissioners also discussed the need for a structural engineer to evaluate the barns and the work they will need.

Mr. Pietrorazio reported that the field draining project for the standing water was completed. Mr. Pietrorazio stated a new 236 foot trench was dug and 4 inch pipe was put in to resolve the current standing water in the middle of the field.

Mr. Pietrorazio discussed a potential long term solution for the draining issues in the field. The Commission discussed potential ideas and plans to see where the water is coming from and if putting a trench and draining at the bottom on the mountain could be a potential solution. Mrs. Carrington suggested discussing the issues with the town engineer.

#### **4. New Business**

The Commissioners discussed inviting Dan Norton from Department of Public Works and First Selectman to the next meeting for a round table discussion for planning for the future of Fenn's Farm.

Mr. Todt requested for the minutes of the meeting, in addition to the moment of silence for John Cookson, be dedicated to Mr. Cookson for his long time outstanding dedication, interest and support of the activities of the Land Preservation and Open Space Committee and now Commission.

Unanimous approval.

#### **5. Public Comments:**

None

#### **6. Adjournment**

Mr. Bialobreski MOTIONED to ADJOURN the meeting at 7:36 p.m.; SECONDED by Mrs. Carrington. Unanimous approval.

These minutes are submitted subject to approval.

Respectfully submitted,

*Katie Burdick*

Katie Burdick  
Recording Clerk