



TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY

Land Preservation & Open Space Acquisition Commission

MINUTES

Land Preservation & Open Space Acquisition Commission Meeting Wednesday, March 1, 2023 – 7:00 p.m. In Person- Upstairs, Shepardson, Upstairs Dining Room

Present: Malcolm Todt
Paul Bialobreski
George Gabrielson
Ericka Carrington

Also Present: Vin Cipriano, Finance Board Liaison
Katie Burdick, Recording Clerk

Public: Armando Paolino

Absent: Jim Lawlor
Anne Paolino

1. Call to Order with Pledge of Allegiance

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

2. Approval of January, 4 2023 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Bialobreski **MOTIONED** to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2023 meeting; **SECONDED** by Mr. Todt. Unanimous approval.

3. Old Business

a. Fenn's Farm Update:

Mr. Todt gave an update on the Fenn's Farm sewer alarm that was discussed at the previous meeting. Mr. Todt stated he spoke with Rob Fenn and the alarm is still broken. They plan to have it repaired this month.

4. New Business

The Commission invited Armando Paolino to discuss potential state and federal funding opportunities for restorations of Fenn's Farm Barns.

Armando Paolino discussed multiple types of funding that is potentially available for this type of project. Mr. Paolino stated there are Federal and State funds that cover these types of project, but he believes only the state funds would be applicable at this point in time for Middlebury. Mr. Paolino stated he will discuss with his colleagues to confirm what type of funds would be applicable and the best for the Fenn's Farm project.

Discussion ensued amongst commissioners about next steps for having the town apply for these state and federal funds. They discussed getting the first selectman's office involved in the application and grant writing process as the first preliminary step to secure these funds.

The Commissioners requested Armando Paolino be present at the next meeting to further discuss next steps with other members of the town present.
The Commissioners also discussed and requested Mr. Paolino bring the state grant writers to the meeting for more in depth details about the process of acquiring these funds.

Discussion was tabled until the next meeting.
The April Meeting will be cancelled and not rescheduled. The Commission will resume meeting in May 2023.

Mr. Gabrielson stated he will notify the First Selectman's office that the April Meeting will be cancelled and request the First Selectman to attend the May 2023 meeting to sit in on the developing discussion.

5. **Public Comments:**
None

6. **Adjournment**

Mr. Todt **MOTIONED** to ADJOURN the meeting at 8:00 p.m.; **SECONDED** by Mrs. Carrington. Unanimous approval.

These minutes are submitted subject to approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Katie Burdick

Katie Burdick
Recording Clerk