



# **TOWN OF MIDDLEBURY**

## *Land Preservation & Open Space Acquisition Commission*

### **MINUTES**

**Land Preservation & Open Space Acquisition Commission Meeting**  
**Wednesday, May 3, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.**  
**In Person- Upstairs, Shepardson, Upstairs Dining Room**

**Present:** Malcolm Todt  
Paul Bialobreski  
George Gabrielson  
Anne Paolino

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

**Public:** Armando Paolino

**Absent:** Jim Lawlor  
Ericka Carrington

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Mr. Gabrielson with the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **2. Approval of March 1, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Bialobreski **MOTIONED** to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2023 meeting; **SECONDED** by Mr. Todt. Unanimous approval.

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

##### **a. Fenn's Farm Update:**

Mr. Gabrielson read aloud the purchasing process from an old email from the department of public works.

Mr. Gabrielson listed a few repairs

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

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

Armando Paolino discussed and went over the multiple types of funding that is potentially available for this restoration and preservation projects at Fenn's Farm. Mr. Paolino provided documents to the commissioners that went into detail about the types of funding

available. There was also an example application in the provided materials to show the types of information required to be filled out by the town when applying for the state funding. The Farmland Preservation application in particular listed out many qualifying factors for the application process along with required documents that the town officials will have to provide. Mr. Paolino stated the application process is extensive and it could take up to 18 months.

Mr. Todt **MOTIONED** to approve a meeting between Chairman Gabrielson and with the State Funding representative, Kip Kolesinskas, as recommended by Armando Paolino; **SECONDED** by Mr. Bialobreski.

**Discussion:**

The purpose of the meeting with Kip Kolesinskas would be for educational purposes on the next steps with the town to apply and secure funding for the restoration & preservation of Fenn's Farm.

Unanimous approval.

Mr. Gabrielson will report to the commission at the next meeting, on how to proceed with the town's application for state and federal funding.

**5. Public Comments:**

Mr. Todt expressed to the commission that former commissioner Ray Pietrarazio intended on attending the meeting but couldn't at the list minute. Mr. Todt stated Mr. Pietrarazio wishes the commission well and hopes to attend a meeting in the near future.

**6. Adjournment**

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

These minutes are submitted subject to approval.

Respectfully submitted,

*Katie Burdick*

Katie Burdick  
Recording Clerk