Members present: Linda Grubb, Don Foster, Brian Reynolds, Joan Morton, Mike

Schroeder on speakerphone

Members absent with prior notification: Jaime Velazquez

Minutes for May 1 and June 5 were read and accepted.

Don reported that there were 94 returned on-line surveys as of July 3rd and Linda reported that 25 hard copies had been returned. The committee discussed how to proceed with the survey. Main questions included: 1) Should we close the survey and review what we have? 2) Should we revise it, put out a press release, and put up a new survey to address the concerns put forth in the survey? Linda is tallying by hand and reviewing people's concerns on the hard copies. Don will figure out how to cross reference the on-line and hard copy responses and get all info onto an Excel spreadsheet.

The committee discussed ways to promote the importance of open space and recreation plans to the public through press releases to the local newspapers and an evening forum for community outreach.

Linda and Jaime went to the Ted Williams Camp on June 14th to hand out survey info cards and Linda went to the Transfer Station on June 28th to hand out the materials she had, where she found that people wanted to talk about issues.

Linda met with the Master Plan Implementation Committee and the Planning Board, both of which were enthusiastic about the work of the Open Space Committee, but gave us no feedback. We would like to find out from other boards and committees what they would like to see for Open Space for their needs. Are there parcels of land that the town should purchase to protect?

The committee reviewed the progress of individual sections of the Open Space Plan. We hope to have a first draft in hand by the fall, then incorporate changes within a reasonable time and send it to the state on a CD. We need to concentrate on the text and find out who can do the maps for us, maybe The Wildlands Trust or SRPEDD.

Several members of the committee made site visits to the town forest and the night soil depository on June 22nd. There are questions as to the actual boundaries of the town forest. Future site visits will be scheduled.

The committee reviewed the plans for Cold Storage Solutions on Kenneth Welch Drive. There is a turtle barrier on the plan, which Natural Heritage will have to review. We decided that we had no objections to this plan.

The committee reviewed the plans for Holloway Brook Cranberries on Pickens Street. If approval is granted for this project, we would like to see an agricultural restriction placed on this property so that it could never be returned to a residential use.

We had a short discussion on possible new zoning changes-neighborhood business districts, apartment by-laws and electric message centers.

Linda mentioned two upcoming meetings-a Sexual Harassment/Telecommunications Seminar at the Library on July 16th at 3PM and 8PM and a priority protection and development areas identification meeting sponsored by SRPEDD on July 31st from 6-8, also at the library.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 PM.

Minutes taken by Joan Morton