

## Rowe Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee

Meeting with FRCOG

May 19, 2023 at 1 PM

Virtual Meeting via zoom

In Attendance: Laurie Pike, Dana Williams, and Alex Reisman (members of the Rowe Open Space and Recreation Committee). Tamsin Flanders from the Franklin County Regional Council of Government

Audience of citizens: Rick Williams, Chair of the Assessors. Rick will be helping with information for section 5.

Call to order at 1:00 PM

The question was asked when are volunteer hours due? Tamsin will check on that.

June 30, 2023 the final drafts of section 3, 4, 5 are due and drafts of 6,7,8 also.

As Tamsin sends them to the committee the members will review and comment on each section. Members should try to get those comments to Tamsin before the next meeting on June 9<sup>th</sup>.

There were questions and comments about the format of the OSRP document that included the following:

Who will be the audience for this plan and how to make it readable for all? The audience will include the town's people and DCR administration. Is there anyone else?

What are the best ways to make it easily available to the public? It will be available on the town's web page and there will be paper copies at the Town Hall, perhaps also the library.

It will be important to link the Story Map to the town's webpage for easier availability.

The Story Map will be a summary of the much longer OSRP report.

There was a question for Section 7 and what level of detail is needed to be included.

A suggestion was made to highlight key points at the beginning or end of the section to allow for scanning of the text visually. Various techniques were discussed to make it user friendly such as colored call-out boxes to highlight information, the use of infographics, as well as, the ability to scroll over maps and highlight.

Alex volunteered to highlight some parts of Section 4 that seem redundant in order to eliminate them and make the text more condensed and efficient to read. Everyone agreed that was a great idea.

There was discussion as to how to explain for the audience more challenging concepts, vocabulary, and complex information. The document needs to include links to information beyond the confines of the text to explain and expand on certain topics within the document.

It was noted that Sections 3,4,5 are for presenting information about the town's open space.

There was a discussion about information that might be in the document that may not want to be made public such as the names of owners of private property of open space. A point was made that this information is available at the Registry of Deeds. More discussion of this topic may be needed.

There will be a need to identify for the OSRP Plan:

High priority properties that the town might like to protect from development.

Lands already in conservation restriction and those lands that are eligible and would benefit from being in CR In the future.

How to connect wildlife corridors with existing open space in Rowe and in other communities.

The committee will be starting to formulate goals for the plan. They will need to consider how to differentiate between what is important to do at some time in the future and what is a priority.

The committee will need to be thinking about a vision statement.

Tamsin will send drafts of 6,7,8 for comments.

Next meeting will be June 9,2023 at 1 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Laurie Pike

OSRP Committee

These OSRP meeting minutes were approved by the OSRP Committee at the July 14, 2023 meeting.