

Open Space and Recreation Meeting

May 20, 2024

8:38 pm

Rowe Town Hall Meeting Room #1

In attendance: Alex Reisman (on Zoom), Dana Williams, and Laurie Pike (OSRP committee members)

Audience of Citizens: none

Meeting called to order at 8:38 PM.

1. Discussed how to recruit new members. It was suggested that an article be put in the Goal Post. The article might include such language as “come join us in making important decisions about Rowe’s future open space needs.” Alex will write something up to put in the June issue of the GP.
2. The OSRP has been submitted and is waiting for final approval from the state.
3. Discussion of how to combine the goals and actions of a number of plans in town. The town has a Municipal Vulnerability Plan, Hazardous Mitigation Plan, Forest Climate Smart Stewardship Plan, and the Open Space and Recreation Plan. All have goals and actions and a suggestion was made that a spreadsheet showing the overlap between the various plans’ goals would be most helpful in targeting those goals that are included in several of the different plans. A spreadsheet of all of the actions and goals with color coding and /or categorizing overlapping goals would help with prioritizing where to begin.
4. Possible OSRP goals to begin with might be an assessment of the culverts in town by FRCOG staff. Laurie will check with Tamsin to see if Rowe is in the cue to receive funds next January to complete this project. Laurie would like to pursue funding to redo the Percy Brown Point picnic area at the park and make it more accessible. This picnic area is used by our out of town guest and recently had the majority of it’s pine trees removed due to disease. The vision would be landscaping to level out the terrain, an accessible path to an accessible picnic table, new plantings of trees and bushes, several new benches and a stone fireplace for cooking ,etc. Another goal to pursue would be to solve who is responsible for the management of town forests and what kind of recreation might be feasible on those properties. The question was asked if we need to strengthen the by-laws governing future request to build solar and battered storage facilities in town. This would need to be coordinated with the Planning Board.
5. The committee will look into eligible funding sources now that the OSRP plan is completed. It was agreed that funding for a grant writer to help in pursuing funding for the OSRP goals would be a good starting point.

Respectfully submitted by,

Laurie Pike, OSRP Committee Member (5/20/24 meeting minutes approved 6/24/24)

