

## LAND USE COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes  
May 9, 2023 7:00 PM

**Members Present:** Carolyn Barthel, Alejna Brugos, Peter Coffin, Barry Iadarola and Anne Mazar

**Guests:** Jason Kuter and Karen Meade.

The meeting opened at 7:00 PM and all present introduced themselves.

**Alejna made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 11<sup>th</sup> meeting, Carolyn seconded the motion and it was all approved, except Barry abstained.**

The goals for the Five-Year Land Use Plan were discussed. Mendon's Open Space and Recreation Plan is being updated and the goals for the plan are being consolidated. The committee agreed that it made sense to do the same for the Five-Year Land Use Plan. The goals would be as follows:

1. Improve Access to Open Spaces and Recreation Resources.
2. Expand the Amount of and Improve the Condition of Passive and Active Recreation Opportunities.
3. Protect the Natural Resources in Mendon including Forests, Farmlands, Water Resources, and Wildlife Habitats.
4. Preserve Mendon's Sense of Community.
5. Help guide business and residential development to shape Mendon's growth, avoiding haphazard development.
6. Provide cemetery space to meet future needs.
7. Assist in the acquisition of land for the Town of Mendon's needs.
8. Work towards the goal of 10% affordable housing units for the Town of Mendon.

**Peter made a motion to accept the new goals as written, Alejna seconded the motion and it was unanimously agreed.**

The committee also looked at the Action Plan map for the Mendon Open Space and Recreation Plan. They agreed that the open space areas should be focused around the areas of Core Habitat and Natural Landscapes as seen on BioMap2. Anne said that Parks and Rec would determine the key areas of importance for the recreational areas.

Peter discussed walking the border of the Gaskill Meadows Conservation Area and noted that there was one major encroachment at 46 George Street where the owner took down the border signs and is mowing the open space. This will be brought to the attention of the Conservation Commission.

Anne asked if she could fill out a Land Use Planning Survey by WPI and UMass on behalf of the Land Use Committee and the committee agreed.

**Peter made a motion to adjourn at 7:45 PM, Barry seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.**

Submitted by Anne Mazar