

Groton Greenway Committee  
Open Session Minutes, 9.20.18, 7:30 PM  
Town Hall

Adam Burnett called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM at Town Hall. Members Carol Coutrier, and Carole Greenfield were present. Guests: Marion Stoddart and Marina Khabituyeva

- I. Upon a motion by Carol Coutrier, seconded by Carole Greenfield, it was

VOTED: to accept the minutes of the August 1, 2018, Groton Greenway Committee meeting.

The vote was unanimous.

- II. Potential New Greenway Committee Member

- A. Marina Khabituyeva shared her interest in the Groton Greenway Committee and other town groups as well as the fact that she is an accountant. She enjoys hiking, and is interested in environmental issues.

Upon a motion by Carol Coutrier, seconded by Carole Greenfield, it was

VOTED: to recommend Marina Khabituyeva to the Board of Selectmen as a member of the Groton Greenway Committee

The vote was unanimous.

- III. Wild and Scenic Rivers Study Update

- A. Marion reported that she attended a meeting of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Study Committee. She noted that Niki Tsongas introduced the bill and is on the Natural Resources Committee. One concern is the need for businesses to support the Wild and Scenic Rivers bill. (Good environment and good economy go hand in hand)

Upon a motion by Carole Greenfield, seconded by Carol Coutrier, it was

VOTED: for Adam to send a letter to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Study Committee with a list of the businesses that have contributed in kind or financially to the River Festival that shows their support.

The vote was unanimous.

- IV. River Festival and Ideas for Encouraging Interest in the River
  - A. At the next meeting when David Pitkin is here, there will be a discussion on how to use the \$2000. Community Grant from Bemis.
  - B. Adam will check on the date of June 9 for the next River Festival, 2019, and will verify with Pete Carson and David Pitkin. Adam also expressed the need for the banner to go up the week before the festival.
  - C. Carole suggested that we come to the next meeting with ideas to encourage interest in the river, such as an event inviting landowners along the river. We need to identify landowners along the river. David Pitkin and Al Fudderman have a list.
  
- V. Nod Road
  - A. Marion reported that the Open Space Plan Study listed Nod Road among 3 sites identified as being potentially hazardous. The Nod Road site had been covered, but not sealed. and there is concern about possible seepage
  - B. Several years ago the Groton Greenway Committee had invited the Groton Conservation Commission to walk the area regarding it becoming an area for ground nesting birds and recreation. There is concern about trees growing up in the area and ATV usage. Tom Delaney suggested fencing in the area to keep people out.
  - C. Marion is interested in the Groton Open Space Plan coordinating with adjoining towns' plans. We all have areas of critical environmental concern (ACEC).
  - D. Adam will speak with the conservation agent regarding public meetings. The town website needs to be updated.
  
- VI. Fitch's Bridge
  - A. Adam will look at the contract concerning the work that fell apart to see if it was included in the contract. Adam will meet with Mark Haddad to discuss.
  - B. Regarding NO JUMPING sign, Adam feels it becomes a law enforcement issue, use of the sign loses respect of the kids and encourages littering.
  
- VII. 2018-2019 Priorities
  - A. Discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

The next Groton Greenway Committee meeting will be held on Nov.8 at Town Hall at 7 PM.. Carole Greenfield will send out a Doodle poll regarding meeting dates. Adam will ask David Pitkin for the key.

Upon a motion by Carole Greenfield, seconded by Carol Coutrier, it was

VOTED: to adjourn.

The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Coutrier