

Open Space Committee
Minutes – 12/18/2024
[approved 1/08/25]
Virtual Meeting

Members in attendance: Penny Jaques, Chair; Barbara Bigelow, Gail Fleischaker

Public in attendance: Tom Siefert

Meeting was opened at 9:37 am.

- 1) The Subduing Knotweed Coalition is applying for a CPC grant to develop a townwide plan for managing knotweed. The plan would be developed by a professional and would provide a framework for controlling this invasive for the long term. The Coalition has requested that the Open Space Committee serve as sponsor for the project by co-signing their grant application.
 - a) Siefert presented a number of technical questions concerning the project's implementation and funding (see them [here](#)). Jaques suggested these questions were appropriate to an eventual CPC project hearing but not to this OSC discussion of project support.
 - b) Question: In principle, does the OSC support development of a plan for knotweed mitigation?
 - i. Jaques moved, and Fleischaker seconded, that the OSC serve as sponsor for the Coalition's application for CPC grant.
 - ii. Vote: Jaques, Aye. Bigelow, Aye. Fleischaker, Aye. Motion passed unanimously.

- 2) FRCOG is developing an action plan to map and expand pollinator habitat in the region. <https://frcog.org/publications/regional-and-local-pollinator-plans/>
 - a. Eight town plans are posted on line. Shutesbury's plan is still in draft form so not yet available online.
 - b. Tamsin Flanders would welcome input from Shutesbury.
TFlanders@frcog.org

Motion to adjourn, made by Bigelow, seconded by Fleischaker, passed unanimously. Meeting was closed at 10:01 am.

Notes taken by Gail Fleischaker.