East Haddam Open Space Committee
Land Use Office

Regular Meeting Minutes
November 27, 2023

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the East Haddam Open Space Committee was called to order by Mr. Brady at 7:30 PM at the Municipal Office Complex.

2. Attendance

Members Present: Will Brady (HDC), Mary Augustiny (IWWC), Harvey W. Thomas (BOF), Joe Sina (CONS), Susan Kinsman (P&Z), Andrew Compagno (EHLT), Tanya Bourgoin (BOS), Travis Goodie (REC)
Members Absent: Jessica Stone (EDC)
Also Present: James Ventres (Land Use Administrator)

3. Approval of Minutes

Bottom of page 2, last paragraph, replace "if there is" with "the".

A motion by Mr. Thomas to accept the September 25, 2023, minutes as amended. Seconded by Ms. Kinsman and unanimously approved. Ms. Govert abstained. Mr. Brady abstained.

4. Bills

No bills.

5. Discussion

a. Scheduled for Open Space Bond Vote and the Kronberg Property

Mr. Ventres passed out the open space bond information and the Kronberg property with potential meeting dates. The Kronberg property has 95.8 total acres with 21 acres that will be pulled out for municipal use if needed at some point in the future. Mr. Ventres reviewed the property details again to refresh the attendees of the property's special features and information. He will provide an overview at the hearing this week. He noted it addresses all the points for preserving open space. It allows the Town to create an open space piece that has opportunities for Moodus residents as well. Mr. Thomas asked Mr. Ventres to outline the open space criteria and how this piece met all the criteria.
The dates are this Thursday for a public hearing, December 06, 2023 for the Board of Selectman, December 11, 2023for the Board of Finance meeting, Jan 17, 2024 for the town meeting, and Jan 30, 2024 for the referendum vote.
Mr. Thomas provided information on the Board of Finance discussion related to the bonding request and the Board of Selectmen's view of the upcoming referendum. Mr. Ventres provided some additional information on discussions he had had related to splitting the $5M bonding request between Open Space and Economic Development Council (EDC). He noted

that the Bond Council has to review what he has submitted for the EDC component. The number of items on the referendum is not known at this point.
Regardless of the open space bonding, Mr. Thomas noted that the referendum for Kronberg needs to happen so that the Town can let the Kronberg owners know about next steps.
Mr. Ventres provided an overview of the open space packet that he is going to review at the open space hearing. He asked for comments and feedback back on the package he is going to review at the upcoming open space hearing. Discussion ensued related to the packet and questions that could come up.
Mr. Thomas asked if the East Haddam Land Trust will provide an education campaign as they have in the past. Mr. Campagno noted that they will, and the good news is that they already have a sub-committee formed to address this.

b. 2024 Annual Meeting Schedule

A motion was made by Mr. Thomas to accept the 2024 annual meeting schedule. The motion was seconded by Mr. Goodie and unanimously approved.

6. Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Goodie to adjourn the meeting at 8:36pm. The motion was seconded by Mr. Thomas and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon A. Goyette
Recording Secretary