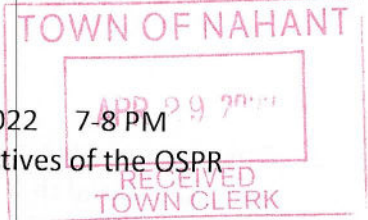


Open Space and Recreation Plan 2nd Community Meeting

April 11, 2022 7-8 PM

Purpose: MAPC Consultant Courtney Lewis to present the Goals and Objectives of the OSRP Committee to the Public

OSRP Committee Members present: Paula Devereaux (chair) Nancy Cantelmo (recorder) Trish Aldrich, Ellen Antrim, Rebecca Durgin.



Courtney introduced himself and reviewed the process the committee had followed. He then presented the Major Phases of Work, Draft of 7 yr action plan and next steps.

Survey questions asked : Did you attend the March 2021 Community Forum- most did not
Did you take the OSRP Survey-higher participation for survey

Members of Open Space Committee introduced themselves.

Courtney explained why the plan is important. It is encouraged by state, to be updated every 7 years OSRP encourages stewardship of natural resources, open space. Town becomes eligible for grants after accreditation. Last accredited plan of Nahant in 2008

The plan must be submitted in a designated format. Section 9 is the topic of discussion tonight. Certain maps are required in the plan, and Courtney displayed some of them. Varieties of Open Space types in Nahant, level of protection, intended use are also part of plan.

MAPC tour of Nahant was conducted at 2 different times-summer 2021, and late winter, spring of 2022, including members of the OSRP Committee.

Public survey: Offered on line and in hard copy from June 29 to July27, 2021: 420 responses, 322 had all questions answered. Top priorities as identified by the survey: Preserving coastal areas, wetlands, maintaining scenic quality, places of historical and cultural interest, preserving open space for conservation and passive recreation

Need identified: adult fitness, nature- based programs, boating sailing, older adult programs, youth sports

Recurrent themes: improving maintained, accessibility, enhancing facilities, programs, cleanliness safety, environmental stewardship, proactively responding to climate change

2008 OSRP reviewed, all uncompleted actions discussed, new action items added, List of accomplishments included in document, many funded by CPA

Goals (6) and Objectives (13) and action items (40) of the draft OSRP were presented along with responsible parties and funding sources to accomplish them. Long and short term time periods were designated for the action items.

This section had been made available to the community prior to this meeting. The full draft will be presented with opportunity to present feedback on the Town website later in the week of this meeting.

Open for questions: Michelle Capano asked about bylaw review relating to objectives. Courtney stated that Objective 1.2 begins to address that for protective measures. Paula expressed plan to further define committee and future work of OSR Committee.

Jeffrey Musman asked about specifically mentioning private lands that might be included in conservation measures, Private properties of open space are included in plan, but named individual people's private property are not listed and it is not recommended, as answered Courtney.

Paula asked about future timing and process. Draft OSP and comment matrix can be downloaded, and comments sent for committee's review to be emailed Courtney. May 3rd is deadline for comment. Courtney explained how to get comments back to committee.

MAPC will work with committee, and plan will be reviewed by town staff and letters of support from Board of Selectman, Planning Board and MAPC. While public is commenting, the state also comments, which will happen at the end of the week.. Conditional approval is first given and items to be addressed are provided. When conditional approval is given, town is eligible to apply for any grants in spring and summer cycle. OSR Plans are reviewed by 1-2 people in the DCS for the entire state. Timing can be a matter of 1-2 weeks or delayed up to 1-2 months. Staffing size is determinate. Final approval is granted after the items provided at time of conditional approval are addressed.

Michael Rauworth asked about legal status of the OSRP. Courtney says that the document is a framework, so that financing, either private or public, this document is a guideline of the community. A publicly determined space that is already protected remains protected.

Question about eligibility for grant funds for projects asked by TA, Tony Barletta. Courtney said projects can be eligible that are not included in OSRP. Shelia Hambleton asked about the relationship of OSRP and Master plan which is quite outdated. Courtney suggested that a recent OSRP is folded into the Master Plan. Updating of Master Plan includes collecting of all recent plans, such as MVP and Housing Plans.

Nancy asked how we continue work of OSR. Courtney mentioned that some towns have standing committees which meet monthly to implement the plan. Our town has a designation that only includes writing the plan. An action item can include setting aside money and having a committee that works on implementing the plan but also formulating the next plan.

Paula suggested that we continue our committee, as is done with other standing committees and boards, as part of the last article of the Town warrant. That would give us time to understand how to craft a bylaw for the future work of the OSR Committee.

Paula thanked public for attending and for submitting their comments to the draft plan.

Respectfully submitted to the Town Clerk's Office, after approval at the April 27th, 2022 meeting of the Open Space and Recreation Plan Committee.