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Open Space and Recreation Committee
May 6, 2025
Johnson School, hybrid in person/Zoom
FlashRoad Master Plan

In attendance: Open Space Committee members (Rebecca Durgin, Paula Deveraux, Trish Aldrich, Nancy Cantelmo, Ellen Antrim, Wendy Wornham), Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, Halvorson Design representative Bryan Jereb, DPW, Fire, School Committee member, School Superintendent, Community Preservation Committee, Park and Recreation Committee representative, Little League representative and community members

New Business
A dual meeting of the Open Space Committee and Board of Selectmen meeting was opened at 6:10 by Tony Barletta.

Bryan from Halvorson Design provided a three part presentation including the Existing Conditions, Challenges and Opportunities for the Johnson Elementary School and Flash Road Park open space

Part 1: Existing Conditions including Johnson Elementary School, Flash Road Open Space were presented with maps providing visuals for each area of focus.

Part 2: Challenges were reviewed for areas of focus for a new design.

1. Access to park area
2. Access to drop off routes for Johnson School
3. Required emergency access to baseball area, which does exist and will need to be maintained
4. Location of DPW site separating the two sides.
5. Pedestrian crossing through DPW area. A well established path to anchor both sides of the site will be needed
6. Definition of the Heritage Trail through the space
7. General lack of definition for pedestrian access throughout area
8. Proximity to the golf course for children's recreation area
9. Some concern regarding flooding

Per Tony's report, there is currently CPC funding to cover rebuilding the Heritage Trail on Goddard Drive likely to begin this spring, which may improve access to Flash Road Park from the Bass Point area. Tony also shared that the Fire Department and Police Station are in need of updates and a Public Safety Building Study is in the early stages, however locations of these areas may change, which should also be kept in mind for Halvorson's final design plan.

Part 3: Site Analysis opportunities were summarized. Details included entrance/exit, parking lot configurations, playing field improvements, reestablish woodland buffer between the golf course, and maintaining emergency access. Phase 2 of this project, which is not currently covered by

this grant, could include a traffic study, which may be available through Chapter 90 funding according to Tony Barletta.

Several recommendations and concerns from community members and committees in attendance were shared. Input provided including Fire Department and DPW concerns for day to day operations and community safety. Comments were noted by Halvorson Design and will be incorporated into upcoming plans.

Next Steps from Halvorson Design will be for grant funding ideas. Tony will publish Halvorson's presentation online with potential methods to collect additional community feedback. Nahant Fire Department and DPW will need to provide specific areas of concern

Next Meeting:
June 3, 2025 7PM

Respectfully submitted to the office of the Nahant Town Clerk, as approved by the June 3, 2025 meeting of the Open Space and Recreation Committee.