

Town of Simsbury

933 HOPMEADOW STREET

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT 06070

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 4, 2020 4:30 P.M.

Board of Education Conference Room, 3rd Floor Town Hall, 933 Hopmeadow Street

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Call to Order

- 1. Public Audience
- 2. Approval of Minutes
 - January 8, 2020 Meeting
- 3. Updates (Oral Reports)
 - Parks and Open Space Master Plan
 - Stewardship, Policies and Land Management Work Group
- 4. Open Space Referral on Sale of Open Space on Holcomb Street
 - Review of Bike Path Easement at 20 Tariffville Road
- 5. Pollinator Pathway

Adjourn

Telephone (860) 658-3200 Facsimile (860) 658-9467 www.simsbury-ct.gov

1	Open Space Commission
2	Wednesday, January 8, 2020
3	4:30PM- Simsbury Public Library, Tariffville Room
4	REGUALR MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT
5	
6	PRESENT: Eric Wellman, Susan Masino, Margery Winters, Anne Erickson (for Dave Ryan), David Bush,
7	Timothy Walczak
8	
9	STAFF PRESENT: Maria Capriola Town Manager, Tom Tyburski Director of Culture, Parks and Recreation,
10	Mike Glidden, Planning Director, Orlando Casiano, Parks Superintendent
11	
12	Absent: Helen Peterson, William Rice
13	
14	Call to Order
15	Mr. Wellman called the meeting to order at 4:30PM
16	
17	1.) Public Audience
18	Mr. Wellman asked if there were any members of the Public who wished to speak.
19	
20	Susan Masino spoke regarding a showing of an Eastern White Pines documentary at the Simsbury Public
21	Library on January 27 th and an environmental symposium on January 15 th at Trinity College sponsored by
22	the CT League of Conservation Voters.
23	
24	2.) Presentation of Draft Parks and Open Space Master Plan
25	Members of the Culture, Parks and Recreation Commission were also present. Dan Biggs and Rochelle
26	McKnight with Weston and Sampson presented the draft findings and recommendations of the parks
27	and open space master plan. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.
28	
29	3.) Approval of Minutes
30	a) A motion to approve the March 6, 2019 minutes as presented was made by D.
31	Bush, seconded by S. Masino. All voted in favor. Motion passed.
32	b) A motion to approve the March 6, 2019 minutes as presented was made by D.
33	Bush, seconded by M. Winters. All voted in favor. Motion passed.
34	
35	4.) Updates
36	Policies and Procedures Workgroup – Tabled.
37	ADJOUDN
38	ADJOURN
39	M. Winters made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by A. Erickson. All voted in favor. Motion
40	passed. Meeting adjourned at 6:06pm.
41	Pospostfully submitted
42 43	Respectfully submitted, Maria Capriola
	Maria Capriola Town Manager
44	Town Manager



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P.O. BOX 495

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT

Date: February 27, 2020

To: Open Space Committee

From: Michael Glidden CFM CZEO

Director of Planning and Community Development

Re: Referral from Board of Selectmen Regarding

Sale of a Portion of Open Space behind Residence of 133 Holcomb St

The property owner of 133 Hopmeadow Street contacted the Town of Simsbury regarding the purchase of approximately an acre of open space. Pursuant to the Town Code, the Board of Selectmen has referred the transaction to the open space committee for input. The action will require a public hearing to be held prior to any action by the Board of Selectmen.

The area of open space related to this referral was required as part of a subdivision approved by the Planning Commission. Below is copy of an aerial photograph from GIS highlighting the area:



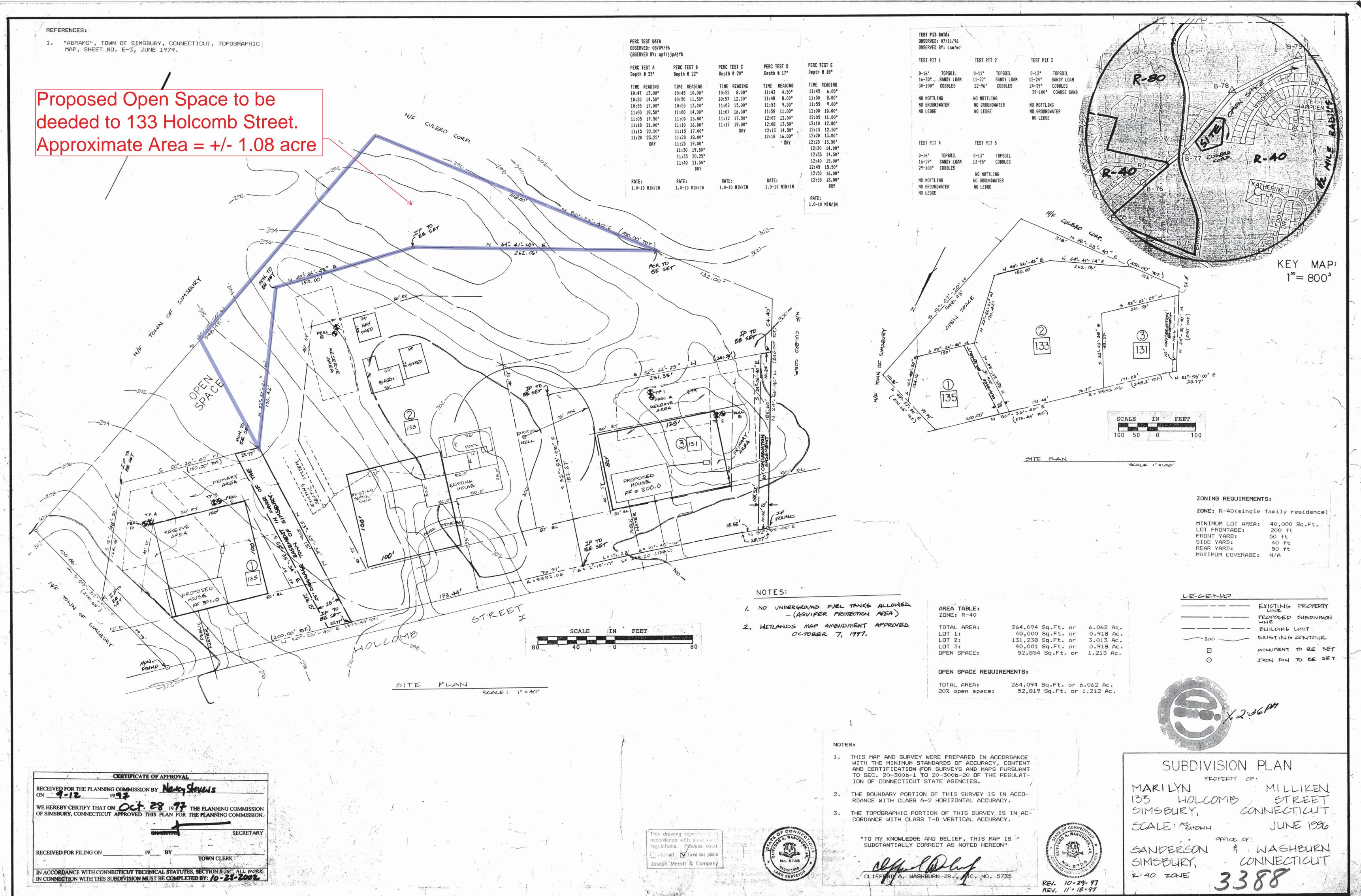
The Town of Simsbury does not maintain the area of open space nor has plans for future maintenance of the area. The abutting property owner maintains the area of open space over the years. Prior to subdividing, the property housed sheep and the area was used for agricultural purposes. The property owner has continued some of these activities such as having sheep graze the area.

The abutting property owner completed an appraisal of the acre of land that he is looking to purchase. Based on conversations with the town, he is prepared to pay full value for the acquisition of this land.

The referral was reviewed by the Planning Commission prior to this meeting. The Commission voted in favor of the sale and determined that the sale would be considered consistent with the approved Plan of Conservation and Development. The Commission noted how the Town of Simsbury is not maintaining the area and does not have plans in the future for activities within the area.

The Conservation Commission also reviewed the referral. The Commission was supportive of the sale of a portion of open space with a consideration that a deed restriction be placed on the area that no structures will be built within the former open space area.

The property owner of 133 Holcomb Street also owns the Old Well property along Tariffville Road. As part of these discussion for his request, the town of Simsbury is looking to purchase an easement over the property for purposes of construction of the bike path that will connect Route 10/202 path to Curtis Park. The new path is still in the permitting stages. Securing an easement for the portion of the proposed path along the frontage of the Old Well property is important for the project. Although this is a separate action and not subject to the referral from the Board of Selectmen, the negotiations relating to the acquisition and sale with the two properties have been directly related.



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