

**Our Town-Our Future**  
**Special Meeting Minutes**  
**Core Committee**  
**Held via Virtual Meeting Invitation**  
**September 18, 2023**

1. **Call meeting to Order** at 7:01 pm
2. **In attendance**-Ray Fenn, Maureen Hanink, Mike Gantick, Richard Williams, Margaret Chatey; Guests Nora Galvin, Joe Hendrick
3. **Introductions**- Nora Galvin has expressed an interest to join the OTOF Committee. Gantick forwarded her letter of interest to the BOS-awaiting confirmation/appointment. OTOF members introduced themselves. Then Ms. Galvin introduced herself as well.
4. **Approval of Minutes- May 1, 2023**- Motion by Hanink, second by Fenn. Approved 5-0.
5. **Communications and Announcements**-none
6. **Old Business**
  - a. **Spring Leadership Meeting**- Gantick reached out to Jeff Silver-Smith and Bill Falletti to discuss another Leadership Meeting. Based upon feedback it seems it would be best to postpone another OTOF meeting initiative until P&Z has figured out their process and meeting schedule for the POCD Update. Don't want to hold a meeting that delves into POCD items and setup any false expectations as public input to the POCD is important and should flow through the P&Z. Further discussion ensued with those present. Suggestions raised about how to take advantage of community interest in development/conservation topic. Also suggested that sections of the POCD be discussed at separate meetings to optimize public input.
  - b. **Ashford Citizen Update**- Last Article was in June Citizen.
  - c. **Project Updates**- the RSA related projects remain with the BOS and DOT- no updates. There was discussion on what potential projects or topics could be brought forth to a Public Meeting outside of the POCD discussions that would be of potential value to the community. Some of the points discussed included, whether the Ashford Historical Society had anything ongoing that they may be looking for some help on; the availability of grants for some of the RSA related projects; the issue with rental properties and if there was anything ongoing or could be done. The Affordable Housing Plan is being addressed by P&Z but likely won't cover renters' issues with landlords for instance. There remains the Master Plan development for the Old Wagonshed property- awaiting potential grant funding-current status not known.
  - d. **New Member Recruitment** – ongoing
7. **New Business**- none

- 8. Input from Public-**Mr. Hendrick suggested that some opportunity to address Invasive plants in Town via grants would be a topic of interest as well as the availability of fast/reliable internet to everyone in town-even just determining who has broadband available.
- 9. Member Input for Next Agenda-**Based upon discussions above about POCD Update process, Gantick will reach out to Jeff Silver-Smith about suggestions/ideas mentioned this evening.
- 10. General comments-** none
- 11. Adjournment at 8:37 pm** by motion from Hanink, second by Chatey. 5-0 approved.

**Respectfully Submitted by,**

Michael Gantick  
OTOF