

West Newbury Open Space Committee
Meeting Minutes – Final

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Wednesday, November 20, 2019
Second Floor Meeting Room, Town Office Building

Present: John Dodge, Don Bourquard, Wendy Reed, Marlene Switzer, Brad Buschur, Jean Lambert, Patricia Reeser, Carol Decker, and Jessica Azenaro, scribe

Guests: Vanessa Johnson-Hall and Maggie Brown - Essex County Greenbelt

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. for Executive Session.

Motion to close Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. - Resume Open Space Meeting

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- 1) **Review and Approval of Sullivan's Court Trails** - Wendy Reed
 - a. NOI presented to Planning Board
 - b. Vote to approve wetland crossing, bridge, and 3-4 ft crushed stone paths
 - c. Trail markers in place
 - d. Language - subject to such condition the Conservation Commission imposes
 - e. Draft CR - Town responsible for maintenance
 - f. Motion to approve trail plan for Sullivan's Court - Unanimous
- 2) **OSRP** – Marlene Switzer
 - a. December session
- 3) **Red Trail Update** – John Dodge
 - a. Clearing - 2 hours of clearing 20-30 yards with a brush hog. Best time to clear in winter
- 4) **Mowing/Trail Maintenance** –John Dodge/Marley Switzer
 - a. Mowing Summary - Marley sent to Wayne Amaral of DPW
 - b. Budget Spreadsheet - John Dodge to send to Open Space Committee
 - c. Mowing Plan - Carol Decker to help with viable plan regarding insect meadows and timing that could reduce the mowing schedule. Audubon Grasslands Manual as a guide for Page North, Riverbend, Cherry Hill
 - d. Dunn/Haying - Approach BOS regarding current farmers haying fields
- 5) **Winter Hike Planning** – Jessica Azenaro
 - a. Dates - Agreed on dates for Thursday, January 23, 2020 - Withers and Saturday, January 25, 2020 to finalize Bicentennial Hikes
 - b. Sign Up Genius - Carol Decker to send copy to Jessica Azenaro for Sign Up Genius creation
 - c. Save A Tree - Jean Lambert to keep in touch with Ann Bennett for future hike in the spring to identify insect damage (Gypsy Moths - oak trees) and tree identification
- 6) **Minutes Review** – All
 - a. Motion to approve October 23, 2019 minutes as amended - Unanimous
- 7) **All Other Business** – All
 - a. Dangerous trees - Too much to ask for volunteers. Request cost for professional arborist for dangerous trees and bittersweet removal
 - b. Waiver of liability - Volunteers

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The next meeting of the OSC will be Wednesday, December 18, 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Azenaro

**cc: Town Clerk
John Dodge, website**