

West Newbury Open Space Committee

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 15, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Please Join Zoom or In-Person Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/8960752005>

Meeting ID: 896 075 2005

Present: John Dodge, Graham Bacheller, Jean Lambert, Don Bourquard, Marlene Switzer, Kathy Feehery, and Carol Decker, scribe

Absent Jessica Azenaro, Patricia Reeser

Guests Angus Jennings, Wendy Reed, Daniel McNamara, Kevin Stacey

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1) All Access Trail at Mill Pond

a) John D. had been contacted by Patricia R. who could not attend tonight's meeting about Trent Lloyd's design for the All Access Trail at Mill Pond. The plan Patricia saw was making people uneasy and John D. said it was nothing like what had been discussed or envisioned. He passed a copy of the design to the committee. Angus J. said the copy that John D just passed around was not the plan and he is not sure how it got into the public realm. He had sent it as a courtesy to CPC with an invoice to show work was being done, but Angus said the real plan is much more detailed. He said planning is still in the conceptual process and Trent will set up a public meeting, share all the information she has received from various groups she has interviewed and try to come to a consensus on the final design. John D. questioned who was in charge of the project as it was first Patricia leading the original CPC proposal, then Brad Buschur, and now it is the Select Board. Angus J. said that projects started by Town volunteers, though they have good intentions do not always follow through and this one, like many, ended up on his desk. Select Board is now in charge of the project. Angus J. said of the \$30,000 granted for the project, \$18,000 has been spent.

2) WN Wild and Native Town Interns

a) Carol D. introduced Kevin Stacey and Dan McNamara who have been hired as invasive plant mapping interns by the Town. Both are in college, spent a week in training learning the top invasive plants to be mapped and will spend 20 hours

per week mapping the Town open space properties. An end of season presentation to the Select Board is planned.

3) Drake's Landing Town Trails Update

- a) Brad Buschur sent an email on how to connect Drake's Landing Trails with Town trails. Marely S. said that Drake's Board wants the road to be private, though the road is not currently private. Angus said the Conservation Restriction on Drake's Landing goes to the property line and it is for the benefit of Town residents. Marley S. said there is no enforcement to make Drake's Board do what they had agreed to do on trails. Angus J. talked about the parking behind the Soldiers and Sailors building and how the Building Inspector needs to be more involved and could assist with concerns.

4) Selection of OSC Chair

- a) OSC members thanked John D. for his three years of service as Chair of the OSC, gave him a gift and card and welcomed in **Graham Bacheller who will serve** in the position for at least a year.

5) Items not reasonably anticipated at time of Posting

- a) The River Access Committee is meeting soon and, under the CR on the River Road, property the town has the right to push river access forward. Angus J. said the committee will seek funding in the fall for the design. Also mentioned was whether there were any updates on the Kimball Road ten acre field. Digging in the field occurred two months ago and recently part of the field had been hayed. No one had updates.

6) Approve Minutes

- a.) Don B made a motion to approve the OSC May minutes. Marley S. seconded. Minutes were unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.