

Minutes
West Newbury Open Space Committee
March 21, 2012

Attending: Barry LaCroix - chair, Don Bourguard, Jennifer Germain, Jean Lambert, Felicity Beech, Steve Greason, and Dawne Fusco – scribe.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30

1. Rick Parker presented the Energy Overlay District Bylaw. The town must meet 5 of the criteria to be considered energy efficient. This group has looked at land owned by the town as well and had asked for any privately held land that might be of use. As of now, they have picked the field west of the Dr. Page School as the best site for a solar panel installation. They would leave the trail clear and a 50' area around the whole field would also be left unused. They are looking for support from this board when this comes to town meeting. We will talk about this at our next meeting and get back to Rick.
2. Alex Ing presented his Eagle Scout project. He is looking to work on 4 orienteering courses that would be used with a compass. Alex's signage is not to conflict with our trail signs. He was asked to contact Jay Smith concerning wetland issues. Steve made a motion to have Alex proceed with this project. Jen seconded it and the motion passed 6-0.
3. Updates were given on the McGowan, Sullivan, and Walker properties.
4. We had a brief discussion on our needs for a GPS for marking trails. Steve will look into the purchase of one and if there are any funds remaining in our budget, we will use them for trail markers.
5. Steve updated us on Ocean Meadows trails and the Dunn property trails. Mr. Gillis would like insurance papers from ECTA before any work has started. At that point, he will sign a consent form. Steve will GPS the trail from the Grange to Ocean Meadows and see about work that needs to be done by the fall Trail Day. Steve has also GPS'ed the trails at Dunn.
6. We had a brief discussion on how to present our views of the CPA tax before Town Meeting. We voted not to support the drop to .5%. We then discussed how best to educate the townspeople about the benefits of keeping the CPA at 3.0%.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawne Fusco