Open Space Committee Minutes 2/25/09

Attending: Jean Lambert, Don Bourquard, Annie Madden, Jennifer Germain

Scribe: Jennifer volunteered to take minutes

Minutes: The 1/21/09 minutes were approved

The meeting began with viewing and approving the photos to be used in the updated OSRP. It was decided that Jennifer would send the final photos to Janet Thibeau to be inserted into the Plan.

Greg Pope joined us from Park and Rec. to bring us up to date on the Summer Program that is being subsidized by the Mosley Grant. The program ran for 5 weeks, attended by 70 kids daily, 125 kids in all. It is designed for students K-6th grade. It is being advertised again for this coming summer.

Greg also reviewed the Park and Rec. goal to build a Community Activity/Wellness Center addressing the needs of all age groups. There was discussion on how to incorporate this into Section 7 of the 2009 OSRP.

The press release for the new make over to our website was approved and will be distributed to The Daily News and The West Newbury News.

There was a lengthy discussion and editing of Section 7 of the 2009 OSRP directed by Jean Lambert. It was agreed that she has done an excellent job on this section. She is awaiting final comments from Don on the trails part of this section before completion.

Don Bourquard brought us up to date on the maps. He hopes to have this Section 5 completed in the next few weeks.

The schedule for the remainder of the calendar year was set.

Don Bourquard brought forward the idea of having a meeting sponsored by the Open Space Committee, to invite various boards and committees such as the Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Board of Selectmen and other interested parties for a discussion from ECTA. Included in the discussion would be initiatives in trail maintenance and trail easements and how ECTA's ideas could be helpful to the town.

Jennifer Germain read a letter received from Essex County Greenbelt describing how their organization will be making more frequent monitoring visits to those parcels in town that are partnered with Greenbelt. It was agreed that a copy of this letter should go to the Board of Selectmen and the Mill Pond Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40pm.