

March 18, 2009 Minutes of the Open Space Committee Meeting

Attending: Jennifer Germain, Jean Lambert, Don Bourquard, Dawne Fusco, Felicity Beech, and Patricia Reeser (who was present the last half hour)

Scribe: Jennifer Germain volunteered to take the minutes.

The meeting called to order at 7:45.

Minutes: The Feb. 25, 2009 minutes were approved.

Felicity Beech invited Kathryn West McLeod to speak about her employer's volunteer program - Sun Microsystems. Kathryn lives in town and would like to organize her co-workers to do a community service project such as a trail clean up. We directed her to Larry Murphy for answers to her liability questions and for what the town might provide for materials as she only provides the labor. We suggested that the River Bend Area would be a great place and agreed we would discuss the where and when and get back to her. The dates available are April 18-25. Her preference is a Friday.

We will submit a request to the Board of Selectmen about this volunteer clean up.

A vote was taken on the final color and fonts for the cover for the OSRP 2009 Plan. It will be green print and fonts to be finalized by Jean Lambert.

We reviewed and updated the Priority Parcel List, deleting the Burkenbush property as it has a CR on it and adding: Smith, Austin, Hallerer and Huffnegel.

We agreed to discuss the following properties at the next meeting and then possibly communicate with the owners: Schiafano (off Main Street), Harris/Gingrich (top of Illsley Hill), Sforza (Crane Neck), and Huffnagel (River Road).

Jennifer Germain agreed to help Don with the text in Section 5.

Don Bourquard noted that the conservation land abutting Parson Woods is open to the public.

We agreed to use the Chestnut Hill painting as an inside picture dedicated In Memoriam to Dick Berkenbush.

Felicity Beech and Dawne Fusco agreed to write Section 9.

Jean Lambert cleared up a few questions on section 7 and is awaiting a final feedback details from various committee members to finalize that section.

Felicity Beech brought up the fact that the River Bend Management Plan and the ECTA town wide Trail Management Plan are both ongoing projects and should be referenced in the 2009 OSRP.

We also agreed to include a reference to the discussion of a Right To Farm Bylaw in the current Open Space and Recreation Plan and make supporting it a future goal.

Patricia Reese reported that there was no report from the Board of Selectmen concerning the Sullivan Property nor was there a town committee formed to study the property.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.