

West Newbury Open Space Committee
Meeting Minutes – Final

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Wednesday, February 12, 2020
Second Floor Meeting Room, Town Office Building

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

Absent: Don Bourquard

Guests: Hilltop Circle, Robin Lane, Hillcrest Residents (Szycher, Simmons, O’Neal, Holmes)

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 p.m.

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1) Article 97/Brake Hill Discussion

- a. Background - Article 97 - 116 Acres of Brake Hill for 2/3 vote at Town Meeting
- b. Town Warrant Article
 - i. BOS and Fincom support protecting land and water assets
 - ii. Town cannot give a conservation restriction (CR) on land it owns
 - iii. Exclude Water Department Land - Water department letter of support
- c. Description
 - i. Access to Brake Hill - 100ft on the left - barrier bridge off of Brake Hill Terrace parallel to 113
 - ii. Water department easement - deed described with survey
- d. Warrant Language
 - i. Stakeholders - BOS/Fincom on 2/24; check with Vanessa Johnson-Hall on date
- e. Resident informal house meeting TBD for informational flyer language
- f. Motion: Move to support Article 97 language as limiting use for passive recreation - Unanimous

2) Trails Manager Update – Wendy Reed

- a. Hours - 2 hours per week monitoring trails
- b. Budget - ConCom
- c. Job Description - Work in progress - include trail schedule

3) Spring Walks – Jessica Azenaro

- a. Brake Hill
- b. Dates - Agreement for Thursday, March 23, and Saturday, March 26
- c. Sign Up Genius - J. Azenaro

4) Pipestave Parking Solution – Marlene Switzer

- a. Warrant article - parking study for Pipestave Hill investigating parking inclusion and loop road
- b. CR Conflicts - B. Buschur recommends master plan

5) Beaucher update - Group

- a. Planned: 200 - Currently: 160 single family units - Chip Hall
- b. Public records request by Chip Hall. Possible road exit to Main and link to Cortland

6) Job Swamp - Marlene Switzer

- a. 3 acres - Birch and Meadow - Phragmites a concern
- b. Reserved conservation - Original grantor failed to record easement a concern
- c. 37 Crane Neck - Easement applied in the title of the original owner as a public way
- d. 3 lots sold - keeps easement on map

- 7) Massachusetts Land Conference - Patricia Reeser/John Dodge**
 - a. March 28
 - b. One Skyline Drive, Worcester Technical High School
- 8) Mass Open Space Conference - John Dodge**
 - a. April 25/Greenfield
- 9) Minutes Review – All**
 - a. Motion to approve January 22 minutes, as amended – Unanimous
- 10) New Business**
 - a. Budget - Motion to keep 2020 budget to \$750 - Unanimous
 - b. Open Space Committee Chairperson job description - March Meeting

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The next meeting of the OSC will be Thursday, March 26, 7:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Azenaro

cc: Town Clerk
John Dodge, website