

West Newbury Open Space Committee

Meeting Minutes

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Wednesday, September 15, 2021

7:00 p.m.

Please Join Zoom or In-Person Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 896 075 2005

Present: John Dodge, Jessica Azenaro, Graham Bacheller, Kathy Feehery, Patricia Reeser,
Jean Lambert, Don Bourquard and Carol Decker, scribe

Absent: Marlene Switzer

Guests: Wendy Reed, Brad Buschur

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

1) All Access Trail at Mill Pond

- a) Brad B. said that Angus J. had signed the proposal from Williams and Sparagis to conduct the survey for the All Access Trail. It will take approximately four weeks. Interviews are being conducted for an architect to develop the trail plan. The survey will be approximately \$10,000 with \$20,000 remaining for the trail plan. The project needs additional funding. Deadline for the MA Land and Water Fund is February 1. Brad said he was happy to continue to oversee the project and would check in monthly with the OSC.

2) Climate Resiliency Committee

- a) Patricia R. would like to step down from the committee, but is asking another OSC member to please step up. There is important work that needs accomplished and she suggested everyone look at the CRC's annual report. Liz Callahan is chairing the committee on an interim basis.

3) OSC Fall Walk

- a) Discussion on holding a Fall Walk in October. It was decided to hold the walk at Mill Pond to highlight the All-Access Trail, the newly renovated Almshouse Cemetery and the West Newbury Wild and Native demonstration of knotweed control in the parking area. The walk will be October 17 at 1pm. Jean L. will update and send the template/poster and Jessica will look into a banner. Patricia R. will look for paper for printing posters.

4) Upcoming Wild and Native Program

- a) Carol D. said that WN2 will have Heather McCargo of the Wild Seed Project be the next webinar speaker, October 28 at 7:00pm, with the topic of Why Native Plants Matter. She asked if the OSC would sponsor and contribute \$100 to the speaker fee. Patricia R. made a motion to approve and it was seconded by Jessica A. Motion unanimously passed.

5) Trail Maintenance and ECTA project

- a) John D. and Patricia R. attended the workshop put on by Essex County Trail Association to train on the new Fulcrum Trail app to identify trail problems such as muddy areas, bridge repairs, downed trees. John D. is walking RiverBend and Patricia R. will walk Brake Hill. Fulcrum uses GIS for location i.d. and photos can be submitted. Patricia said this new app. has mutual benefits for OSC and ECTA.

6) Patricia R. reimbursement for Doug Tallamy's May webinar

- a) Patricia R. passed around the Town form that needed to be signed by Committee members so she could be reimbursed the \$167.00 she paid in advance of his talk. The Town will only pay following a program. Committee members signed the form and wished her well in getting paid!

7) Items Not Reasonably Anticipated at Time of Posting

- a) Wendy R. said the new Conservation Agent would be starting soon and will have five hours per week for the Land Agent role. She hopes the agent will have some hours to attend OSC meetings. It was discussed that it would be good for the Agent to learn and use the Fulcrum Trail app.
- b) John D. said he will be meeting this week with Vanessa J-H from ECGA, Angus J. and Wayne A. on parking on Cortland Lane.

8) Meeting Adjourned

- a) Jessica A. made a motion to adjourn. Jean L. seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Decker