

West Newbury Open Space Committee

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

7:40 p.m.

Please Join Zoom or In-Person Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 896 075 2005

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

Absent: David Parrott

Guests: Michelle Greene, Conservation Agent, and Wendy Reed, Select Board

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m. following the Executive Meeting.

New CPA Representative

Patricia R. is asking for a new member to sit on the Community Preservation Committee which she has participated in for 18 months. Unfortunately, it conflicts with other meetings she needs to attend. She recommends that all committee members join it for a one-year stint and thus learn more about the CPC. The meetings are an hour and in person. Graham B. said he could attend meetings beginning in September and Patricia R. will serve for July and August.

MBTA Communities

Graham B. attended the Tuesday session of the MBTA communities, as did others on the committee, to look at what parcels of land could be re-zoned to allow for more clustered housing and meet the rules for increased housing set up by the State. The meeting was recorded and should be on the Planning Board website. Next Tuesday is the final MBTA meeting and hopefully many committee members can attend.

Conservation Update

Michelle G. will be full-time as of July 1 in West Newbury and hopefully can spend more time in the near future on creating a trail management and trail stewards plan. Carol D. attended the Con Comm meeting on Tuesday to seek approval for the RDA that was submitted to allow the interns to pull invasive plants in select buffer zones. The plan was approved by the Commission. There was discussion on whether the Town or Essex County Greenbelt owns the new property off Coffin Street. Michelle G. will check the records and send them to OSC members. The Town will be responsible for creating trails in the new SawMill Brook property.

Goodbyes

Jessica A. is moving out of West Newbury and tonight was her last night on the OSC. We are sad to see her go and wished her well in her endeavors.

Approve Minutes

Minutes from March and April were not approved. There was no May meeting.

Motion to Adjourn: John D. made a motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Carol D. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Decker, Scribe