

Open Space Minutes, 11/3/04

approved 12-1-04

Attendees

Anne Madden
Patricia Reeser
Janet Thibeau

Dawne Fusco
Don Bourquard
Jean Lambert

Topics covered

- Minutes of 10/6
- CPA/Land Bond forum
- Planning Board meeting: Wells/Long Hill easement
- Planning Board meeting: ECTA easements
- easement projects
- Other major focus areas
- Other
- Next meeting

Minutes of 10/6/04

The minutes of the 10/6/04 meeting were approved unanimously.

CPA/Land Bond forum

We are planning to have a CPA/Land Bond forum in late January. The purpose of this forum is to provide information about the CPA and facilitate discussion on it as well and the land bond.

Next steps:

- Anne to call Leigh Ardrey to get the FinComm's views on CPA and invite Tracy Blais to attend our Dec. meeting
- Patricia to contact state to find person to present overview on CPA.
- Anne to create invitations.
- Anne and Patricia to contact Ipswich and Rowley to gather information about those town's experiences with CPA.
- Jean to coordinate refreshments for forum.
- Janet to draft CPA fact sheet for review before Dec. meeting
- OSC members to review CPA information, including www.communitypreservation.org

Planning board meeting: Wells/Long Hill easement

The OSC attended the Planning Board meeting to discuss Wells/Long Hill easement and meet with Carol Lloyd from ECTA regarding how they set up and manage easements.

We reviewed proposed easement map that was drafted by Don. John Wells is plotting this information onto his plans. Anne sent a letter to Mr. Knight and we are waiting for a response. The proposed trail is still not completely defined, but would range from 5-10 ft. wide.

Next steps:

- Patricia to meeting with John Sarkis regarding an easement from Worth's Lane.

Planning board meeting: ECTA easements

The OSC attended the Planning Board meeting to discuss Wells/Long Hill easement and meet with Carol Lloyd from ECTA regarding how they set up and manage easements.

Carol Lloyd's presentation included the following information. ECTA was founded in 1982 to preserve trails. It has 700 volunteers. It is working in West Newbury with land owners to provide easements that meet the land owner's needs (ECTA focuses on non motorized trails). ECTA provides trail maintenance, posting and management via area trail reps. ECTA sets up permanent easements, however, the location of the easement may be changed if the ownership/use of the land changes. ECTA provides additional insurance for liability, but currently the courts tend not to hold land owners responsible for injuries, etc. ECTA manages public trails and recommends that trails be 10 ft. wide.

Easement projects

The table below summarizes the current easement projects.

Property	Update	Next Steps
Barry, Coffin Street	No update	
Cawley, Middle Street	No update	Anne contact Mr. Cawley re: trail easement.
Knowles, Main Street	East/west trail is shown on current plan. OSC voted to support north/south easement that connects to east/west easement and Main St. (4-0) The specific location of the north/south easement hasn't been finalized.	Don to contact Bea Downey re: easement.

Other major focus areas

At our next meeting, we will discuss the other major focus areas for the committee.

Next meeting

Our next meeting is December 1.