

# Open Space Committee Minutes

December 11, 2013

**Attending:** Steve Greason, Don Bourquard, Alice O'Leary, Mike Sabulis, and Jean Lambert

The meeting was called to order at 7:52 p.m.

**1. Minutes:** November minutes were not available. October minutes were approved subject to editing.

**2. New OSC Members:** Steve announced that Dawne Fusco had been approved as a full OSC member and that Mike Sabulis and Elisa Grammer had been approved as associate committee members. Dawne takes Felicity Beech's place.

**3. Priority Parcels (Beaucher, Grew) and Town Access – End of Courtland Lane:** The group discussed these areas. Jean updated the group on the Grew property. Don raised the issue of the cost of APR rights for Grew and will research this. He also proposed the idea of the Town buying this parcel as a multiple-use piece.

**4. Zero Chase St. Right of First Refusal:** Steve reported that the Town has no interest in buying this property. After the committee discussed this property briefly, Don moved that we pass on this opportunity too. Steve seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**5. River Hill Development Update:** Steve reported that when he attended the December 2 Con Com meeting to discuss the Riverbend project, he listened to the Sullivan property discussion. He updated the group on what he had heard concerning trails and we discussed possible trails on this site. Don noted that Tom Neve has an option to buy "Sullivan North" (on the water) and raised the issue of discussing trails on this property with him.

**6. SSJE Emery House Request:** The committee discussed the SSJE Emery House's request to construct a new trail in the Southern Parcel next to the West Newbury Water Department with access to the Lower Artichoke Reservoir as well as how we might begin this trail. Our discussion was informed by a map of the area Steve presented. This trail would serve as a kind of pilot project leading to the possibility of other, more extensive trails here. Steve will buy the materials needed for this trail and will be reimbursed by the SSJE. The SSJE (through their representative Jamie Coates) is talking with ECTA about easements on this property.

**7. New Mill Pond GPS Data:** Steve reported that Frank Perra of Groveland has completed Mill Pond trail network GPS data and that has resulted in a variety of maps. Steve suggested that Mill Pond needed a new map and trail marking upgrades. He indicated that this should be a joint project with the Mill Pond Committee, an idea which the group endorsed. Don volunteered to act as a liaison with the Mill Pond Committee.

**8. ECTA Request Re Ocean Meadow Boardwalk:** ECTA has requested that the OSC get cost estimates and volunteers to build a bumper/rail for the Ocean Meadows boardwalk to prevent horses from falling off. The group discussed this issue. Steve suggested 4X4 pressure treated wood. He will determine costs for this project after measuring the area.

**9. Riverbend Bridge/Boardwalk Project:** This project was approved by the Con Com on December 2. An Order of Conditions will be provided soon. The next step will be to work with the town clerk and financial department to put the project out to bid. The group also agreed that this bridge/boardwalk project should fit with horses' needs.

**10. Goals and Objectives:** The group chose South St. Woodlots as the next trail for its ongoing library exhibit. This Greenbelt built trail opened this past August.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Jean T. Lambert*