

West Newbury Open Space Committee MINUTES

Wednesday, February 15, 2012

Present: Barry LaCroix, Don Bourquard, Dawne Fusco, Steve Greason, Jean Lambert, Patricia Reeser, and Felicity Beech (recorder)
Guests: Ann Bardeen, Jamus Driscoll, Brendan White, David Santomena (Greenbelt)

The meeting began at 7:30 P.M. and adjourned at 10:00 P.M.
The January 18 minutes were accepted.

1. Discussion of Priority Parcels

Society of St. John the Evangelist- Felicity reported on a meeting of SSJE with the Water Commissioners and SSJE. The benefits, feasibility and siting of solar panels are subject to further study. The Brothers plan to give easements for a revised trail through the southern parcel and have requested that OSC mark a revised route which would cross R113 close to Emery Lane. Trails on the northern parcel will also be established.

Sullivan - Patricia reported that the Sullivan Committee continued to meet in executive session. The Land for Public Trust, together with Greenbelt, has been working on a possible plan to protect the property as farm land. It was noted that the soils here are designated as prime agricultural resource, valued for supporting the Grow Locally-Buy Locally movement. Eligibility for CPA funding was to be sought at a meeting with the CPC on February 16.

2. Other Parcels

Kimball - The property was sold at auction to a dairy farmer in Peabody who plans to farm the property for cattle feed as required under the APR. The committee hoped the new owner might be open to expanding the trail network.

3. CPA Tax - It was agreed to make this a priority for the next meeting since this was the only current source for open space funding.

4. Trails

Ocean Meadow - Steve reported that ECTA had reviewed and quoted to improve the trail across Lot 2 and planned and to perform this work in the spring, subject to Con Com approval. The developer does not expect to open the trails on Lot 2 before 2013.

Respectfully submitted,
Felicity Beech