

West Newbury Open Space Committee
MINUTES
Wednesday, December 12, 2012

Present: Steve Greason, Don Bourquard, Barry LaCroix, Jason Spaulding, and Jean Lambert.

The meeting began at 7:39 P.M.

1. **Minutes** – The October minutes were unanimously approved. Steve made the first motion for approval; Jean seconded it.
2. **OSC Annual Report and Website Updates** - Steve submitted the OSC annual report by the 15th of November. He also made four additions to the OSC website: 1) the Annual Report (under Minutes), 2) a new map of the Chestnut Hill Farm reservation, 3) trail photos to the trail photo journal, and 4) a link to a blog (KimWalksDogs.com/blogspot) which provides a viewpoint of a dog walker. This blog has covered four trail hikes in Town along with photos.
3. **Draft Letter to BOS Regarding Activities at Dunn Field** - Steve suggested that this letter drafted by Jean be held until a later date.
4. **Riverbend** –
 - A. **Page School 6th Grade Science Class Project** – Steve indicated that this project was to make students aware of Riverbend and use testing sites there for soils, plants, animals, etc.
 - B. **Winter/Spring Edition of Riverbend Trail Guide To Include Riverbend West Trails and Other Features** – Steve recommended revising the Riverbend Trail Guide and including the school testing sites and Riverbend West trails.
 - C. **Meeting with Conservation Commission Requesting Changes by December 17th** – Steve advised the ConCom of the update of the Riverbend Trail Guide and discussed Riverbend West with them.
5. **Trail Easement Proposal to Dunajski Family (Baileys Lane to River Road)** – Steve reported that he had sent a letter addressing trail easement and a map with proposed trails to the Dunajskis who are dairy farmers living in Peabody, MA. Steve has not yet heard from them.
6. **New Artichoke Trail Project** – Steve presented a trail in this area that he had GPSed, noting it was not marked. The group discussed this trail and the requirements for developing since it is a well field area. Steve reported that he has talked to a variety of stakeholders about this trail as well as others. There are 9 stakeholders. In January, the Water Department and SSJE will meet together to pursue this topic further.
7. **Webster Property in West Newbury for Subdivision on Wood Street, Groveland** - The group discussed the Webster property and the possible benefit to the Town of owning a sliver of this land that lies in West Newbury.
8. **Goals and Objectives** – Don presented a map with another proposed route for the trail crossing the Cena property, a trail which is part of a greater town-wide trail system. The group discussed this alternative to the current trail easement.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Lambert