

West Newbury Open Space Committee MINUTES

Wednesday, May 18, 2011 (Amended June 22, 2011)

Present: Barry LaCroix, Felicity Beech, Dawne Fusco, Jennifer Germain, Steve Greason, and Jean Lambert

The meeting began at 7:37 P.M

1. **Minutes** - Barry updated the status of the minutes. Minutes are being posted and are current, except for one or two months that have yet to be posted. April minutes were not yet available.
2. **Cena Site Walk** - There was an update on the ConCom meeting relating to the Cena trail easement. The site walk was postponed because of Don Bourquard's absence. The committee decided to schedule a site walk including conservation agent Jay Smith, even if Don is not available. Barry will email Dan Cena about possible dates including 6/11 or evenings.
3. **Update on Daley Property** - The group discussed the town meeting article. Town meeting moved no action on this article. Points made were that the price of the property needed to come down and that the appeal of the property usage be broadened to make the plan more appealing to the town.
4. **Discussion of CPA Warrant Article** - The group discussed the CPA presentation at town meeting and expressed its appreciation to Steve for speaking on behalf of the CPA. It also discussed the need for an OSC response to the CPA committee concerning best uses of CPA money. Barry spoke of the need to reach out to the CSC and inform them further about the CPA and agreed to do so.
5. **Update on Walker Property** - There was a discussion the current state of the Walker property. Jennifer, who had a conflict of interest, left the meeting.
6. **Goals and Objectives** - The group discussed trail markers after a demonstration of markers by Felicity. The group decided to order red, blue, and white markers. Felicity will email Don about this. The group also discussed selecting OSC maps to frame and hang as well as Mansfield paintings of West Newbury in the recent OSRP Plan.

7. **Selection of a Chair** - After a short discussion of who might serve as OSC chair for the coming year, the vote was 4-0 in favor of Barry continuing as chair. Barry abstained. Jean agreed to support Barry by making sure correct meeting minutes were posted as needed. Barry will continue to post meeting dates.

8. **Other Business**
 - A. **Town Land Committee** - An update on this group noted that it had taken the priority parcel criteria and cut the list of priority parcels. Also noted was the fact that a replacement was needed on the committee because Glenn Kemper would no longer be on it as a representative from the Board of Selectmen. It was suggested that it might be helpful for the OSC to advise on Glenn's replacement.
 - B. **Cawley Property** - As one of various town boards, the OSC was notified that the Cawley property was out of 61A. The selectmen asked for the OSC's opinion on whether the town should buy this property since the town has the right of first refusal. After studying the maps and clarifying with Deb Hamilton that there were no trail easement requirements, the group voted. The unanimous decision was to advise the selectmen not to exercise the town's 61A rights since we have a trail easement on a parcel that abuts this one. Barry will convey our advice to the selectmen.
 - C. **Need for a New Committee Member** - The group agreed that, with the resignation of Pierre Avignon, it needs a new voting member. Several suggestions were made and the group decided to consider further possible candidates. Felicity suggested that the selectmen might post the opening. Barry will advise the selectmen of Pierre's resignation.
 - D. **Garden Club Plant Sale Participation** - To build awareness about open space in West Newbury, Felicity and Jean agreed to staff an information table during the Saturday morning Garden Club plant sale on May 21st. They will answer questions and distribute literature, including maps of West Newbury trails.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Lambert