

September 15, 2010 Minutes of the Open Space Committee

Attending: Barry LaCroix, Jennifer Germain, Jean Lambert, Felicity Beech, Steve Greason

The meeting was called to order at 7:30.

1. There was an update of what is happening with the Town Land. Barry informed us that a committee is being put together and that he (Barry LaCroix), and Patricia Reeser will be representing the OSC in an effort to decide what land could be recommended for sale.
2. Rob Thompson and Erin Young came before the committee representing their Cub Scout Troop looking for a two hour project for 9-10 year olds. After a bit of discussion the OSC recommended marking the trails on the Craven property. There will be some type of a blaze in different colors to mark the different trails.
3. Greg Pope from the Parks and Rec. committee came before us to share what they have been working on concerning the Daly property and their efforts to bring it before the town to purchase. They have had an engineering plan done which reflects an initial proposal to use the land for multi-purpose fields, walking trails, wellness center, tennis courts and other recreational uses. The property abuts the existing playing fields on Bachelor St. as well as Action Cove. OSC generally supports the idea and would like to continue meeting with them. Greg also suggested that we could put in a warrant article for a brush hog and ask Gary Bill the hours it would require to maintain the existing town trails, whatever that number is it could be put into the operational budget to secure consistent maintenance.
4. Brown's Lane Parcel: There are apparently two parcels on Brown's Lane one of which abuts ConCom land. The owners had reached out to Greenbelt for possible acquisition. We were unaware of where the properties were. Barry will follow up as he thought he had received something on this.

5. Goals & Objectives:
 - A. Work with Parks and Rec. to form a better relationship going forward.
 - B. Put together a comprehensive marketing plan to sell the need for the parking lot on Riverbend.
 - Need a clear plan
 - Address concerns
 - Represent to town at spring meeting
 - C. Better signage for trailhead entrances and parking for trails
 - D. Participate in proposal to sell town owned land to address budget deficits
 - E. Have periodic walks to familiarize the public with what we have. Possibly seasonally (winter snowshoe, spring hike, fall cross-country bike ride, etc.)
 - F. Discuss further the stewardship of maintaining the trails.
6. The minutes from the previous meeting were read and amended. A motion was made to accept, Jean seconded and they were approved unanimously.
7. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25p.m.

Respectfully,
Jennifer W. Germain