

# *West Newbury Open Space Committee*

## **Meeting Minutes**

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Tuesday, Nov. 13, 2018  
Second-floor Meeting Room, Town Office Building

**Present:** Jessica Azenaro, Don Bourquard, Jean Lambert, Wendy Reed, Patricia Reeser and Marley Switzer, scribe.

**Absent:** Brad Buschur, Dan Carlat, John Dodge

**Guests:** Vanessa Johnson-Hall and Maggie Brown of Essex County Greenbelt Association  
Barry LaCroix, Rob Phillips and Elisa Grammer, members of the West Newbury River Access Committee

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

Patricia Reeser commented:

- The Fall Hike was a success, with about 40 people participating.
- Register online at [ecga.org/conference](http://ecga.org/conference) for the Greenbelt Open Space Conference on Dec. 1, 7:45 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the UMass Lowell building, Haverhill.
- Gov. Baker is proposing legislation that would make the required town approval for local zoning changes a simple majority instead of the current two-thirds majority. The move is intended to remove a roadblock to creating more affordable housing.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. (motion, Don Bourquard; second, Jessica Azenaro) so the committee could reconvene in Executive Session. The purpose was to discuss support for local land preservation with Greenbelt representatives and members of the town's River Access Committee. The Executive Session was closed and the regular meeting reopened at 8:09 p.m.

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Patricia Reeser suggested that OSC members consider how to proceed with the RecCom, following the TM defeat of its proposal to expand facilities to Dunn Fields. Can the Greenbelt CR for Mill Pond be amended? Can the Mill Pond Management Plan be amended?

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Jean Lambert introduced the concept of forming an open space trust in West Newbury: Can such a private, non-profit entity be established to facilitate land acquisition? Can CPA funds be set aside in a trust?

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An informal discussion of the October Hufnagle site walk: Those who walked the parcels reported they were impressed with the location and quality of the property for trails and possible access to the river.

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Minutes of the Oct 17 meeting were approved with changes (Don Bourquard, motion; Jessica Azenaro, second).

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The next meeting will be Wednesday, Dec. 12 at 7 p.m. Town Manager Angus Jennings will be on the agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Switzer

**cc: Town Clerk, file**  
**John Dodge, website**