

West Newbury Open Space Committee
Meeting Minutes

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Wednesday, April 4, 2018
Second-Floor Meeting Room, Town Office Building

Present: Don Bourquard, John Dodge, Steve Greason, Jean Lambert, Wendy Reed, Patricia Reeser, and Marley Switzer

Absent: Jessica Azenaro, Brad Buschur

The OSC meeting was called to order at 6:18 p.m. Members discussed a 16-acre parcel preserved under Chapter 61B that was owned by the late Gordon and Susan Follansbee. The land abuts property on Middle Street where the Insight Meditation Center is located. An access to trails on the 24-acre town-owned Withers Conservation Area is by a public right of way on the Insight driveway.

The Follansbee parcel has been placed under contract. While OSC members concluded that the \$900,000 sale price would be prohibitive for the town, they acknowledged that there are few 61B parcels with trails and this could be the largest.

On a motion by John Dodge, seconded by Don Bourquard, the OSC voted unanimously to reluctantly advise the Board of Selectmen not to exercise the town's right to purchase the Follansbee land.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m. The next regular OSC meeting will be Wednesday, April 28, at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marlene Switzer

cc: Town Clerk, file
Steve Greason, website