

Open Space Committee Minutes - 03/06/2008

Hopkinton Open Space Committee

March 6, 2008

Minutes

At Slusser Center at 7:00 p.m.

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Attendance:~ Ron Klemarczyk, Don Lane, Dijit Taylor, Susan Zankel; Jim Zeppieri and Howard Moffat from the Rotary/Gould Hill Orchard Project

Minutes of February 21 meeting – approved as submitted

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Old Business

~~~~~ Gould Hill

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Appraisal cost – Since the previous meeting, conservation commission has approved spending up to \$2750 to pay half of the cost of the updated restricted appraisal, cost being split with Gould Hill Orchard Project; document due by March 20.~ Project components that might affect the outcome of the appraisal were discussed, as well as how to be positioned to move quickly toward purchase and sale agreements once appraisal shows current values.

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A meeting between Rotary group, OSC, conservation partner, landowners and their realtor may be useful in the near future.

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Review and discussion of draft of critical path of tasks and time line for the Gould Hill Orchard Project, including elements for both the town and the new Gould Hill group.~ Howard to

revise tasks and dates based on discussion and share with all involved at or before next meeting,

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Discussion of possible sources of funding for various components of the project – town open space bond, LCHIP and FRPP applications, private fund raising in and out of town, sale of shares in new business.~ All agree that coordination of fund raising between OSC, conservation partner and new business are of critical importance to increase public understanding of the dual nature of the project as presently envisioned.~ A joint appeal fund raising piece is a possibility.

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Zankel, Lane and Pellerin designated at OSC representatives to a “working group” to represent the OSC with the Rotary group, between meetings.~ Actions to be endorsed or modified by full committee as needed.~ Representatives of 5RCT to be sought for working group. ~

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OSC to provide suggestions to Rotary “February Update” as basis for handout for school district meeting and town meeting.~ OSC declined to have an information table at the meetings, feeling that there was nothing specific to show or say at this time.

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Rotary folks outline the time concerns that shape their view of the project, mainly that the best time to sell shares in the business is during harvest season.~ OSC is concerned about setting a date for town meeting following landowner signed assent to terms of purchase and sales agreement, that meets legal requirements for meeting announcements etc, that Selectmen will agree to, and when most citizens are able to attend.

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All agree that it is very important for all the entities working on this project - Rotary group, OSC, and conservation partner- to work together in close cooperation.

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After Zeppieri and Moffat departed, Susan provided an update from 5RCT about the cost, timing and content of a fund raising feasibility study. 5RCT to be invited to attend next OSC meeting for further discussion.

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OSC members to consider content of recent email from appraiser and then decide when to ask town attorney to begin redrafting purchase and sale agreement.

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Zeppieri, Moffat, Kristin Claire and 5RCT to be invited to attend next OSC meeting.

~New Business –Dijit Taylor designated chair of the committee

~Next Meeting:~ Thursday, March 20, 7 p.m. at the Slusser Center

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Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,~Dijit Taylor, Recorder