

Hopkinton Open Space Committee  
Wednesday, May 26, 2010  
Local History Room, Hopkinton Town Library

**7:00 p.m.**

Minutes - Accepted at OSC meeting June 23, 2010

Administrative

- Attendance: Lucia Kittredge, Ron Klemarczyk, George Langwasser, Dijit Taylor, Susan Zankel, Don Lane, Bob LaPree
- Minutes from March and April 2010 meetings accepted with revisions content
- Updated Committee contact info solicited
- The 5RCT Volunteer Excellent Award, presented to Open Space Committee at the 5RCT Annual Meeting on May 22 is exhibited. Names of committee members and major volunteers will be added to the back of the award and then George will get it displayed at Town Hall.
- Date for next meeting – Wednesday June 23?

Old Business

- Discussion of priorities and ways to move forward
  - A priority is to have trails, with signs and parking at each of the 7 parcels protected with open space bond funds so voters can more readily see what they have voted for.
  - Given that there are problems associated with making a list of priority properties, it might be better to establish categories of properties desired for protection. Possibilities include farmland (included the already publicized desire to protect Gould Hill Orchard), riverfront land, a 50' right of way along the river, walking trail access to the railroad right of way, ring of open space with walking trails around each village and over Gould Hill connecting the two greenbelts. There is a new clearing on Watch Tower Hill that provides an outstanding view. Don to explore whether the phone company would be interested in a conservation option to retain the view.
  - Brainstorming of ways to increased interaction between OSC and other groups in town: making presentations to other groups, hosting a meeting that others are invited to – perhaps to unveil open space information on town website, holding annual walk on open space properties
- Publicizing properties
  - Susan reviews ongoing discussion with Conservation Commission about signage for open space bond protected parcels and other conservation land. The optimal type of sign(s) is still not clear. Susan and Ron to visit each parcel to consider site options and issues. OSC's priority is trails and signs on the 7 parcels that have been protected with open space bond funds. Conservation Commission will have its own priorities. OSC likes idea of information for each property on town website. Bob LaPree is preparing to take photos of each parcel, which can be included on the website. There may be costs to accomplish these goals. Work that costs under \$5000 does not have to be put out to bid. Funds for this work may be available in the "additional project costs" that were part of each open space bond.
- Bohanan project is progressing well – all needed material submitted to NRCS.
- Conservation Easement Status
  - Rollins – Dijit to discuss the trash filled chicken coop situation with town administrator

- Rice – Don has spoken with Jay Haines, the new Executive Director at 5RCT and is awaiting a revised draft of the proposed conservation easement
- Beyer – Dijit to see Karen Robertson can provide a map of the parcel to share with NH Audubon to move that project forward
- Ransmeier – Lucia did not get a response from message left for HHS Seniors working on mapping this property
- Recreation Guide – Dijit will pursue having description of the open space bon acquired properties in the upcoming Recreation Guide to the town.  
Other

#### New Business

- Some possible activity in Burnham Intervale related to the proposed project in West Hopkinton
- Not clear what this season may bring to Gould Hill Orchard

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Dijit Taylor, recorder