

Hopkinton Open Space Committee
Tuesday, January 12, 2010
Local History Room
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Minutes accepted at February 9, 2010 meeting

Administrative

- Attendance: Ron Klemarczyk, Bryan Pellerin, Dijit Taylor, Susan Zankel, Don Lane, Bob Lapree, Mark Zankel
- Minutes from December 1, 2009 meeting approved as presented

Old Business

- Update on Bohanan project post special town meeting
 - Bryan has sent out RFPs for surveys, cost is coming in higher than expected. Ron suggests that cost may be reduced by using survey information that was done on some of the property in the past.
 - Baseline documentation work in the hands of qualified consultant
 - Mark shares the excellent news that LCHIP has awarded \$200,000 to the project! We are asked to keep this information confidential until LCHIP makes an official announcement, but Mark will inform Jamey and Board of Selectmen right away. Not clear what additional requirements this additional funding will entail or what the costs of those requirements may be. Susan to draft a press release focusing on the affect of the funding on this project, to be sent out as soon as LCHIP makes it official announcement.
 - Mark is setting up a meeting with NRCS to review their requirements and timeframe. Dijit offers to attend on behalf of the committee/town.

New Business

- Ron reviews a possible project where land owner approached OSC while committee was busy with Gould Hill project. Ron to contact landowner about their current interest.
- Beyer
 - Abutter has approached Dijit about need for mowing on the cleared part of the parcel. Ron approves allowing the abutter to do the needed mowing. Dijit to relay news to abutter.
 - Conservation easement on this project still pending stabilization at New Hampshire Audubon. Dijit to contact staff there to see if/when they might be willing to work on the conservation easement.
- Discussion of future activities: Having spent about half of the authorized funding, Committee may want to take stock of where it has been and what is most important to accomplish with the remaining funding. A number of ideas for future projects were discussed, including signage for open space properties, the benefits of having trails, parking and maps, opportunities to work with other community groups, priorities and prospects for other important projects, and the conservation easements on lands acquired in fee with open space funds. Don offers to summarize some of the issues and concerns in writing to facilitate discussion at upcoming meetings.

- Susan and Bob suggest that committee might revisit its priority list.

Other

- Upcoming at town meeting
 - 2 warrant articles concerning changes to conservation fund that were part of the discussion about using money from that fund for Bohanan conservation easement. Cons com to discuss at 1/19 meeting.
 - Warrant article to rescind open space bond authorization has not been submitted as of this date.
- Dijit to discuss with town administrator if there are problems with the conservation easements on parcels acquired earlier.

Date for next meeting – Tuesday, February 9, 2010

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Dijit Taylor, recorder