

Hopkinton Open Space Committee
Wednesday, April 9, 2014 7:15 p.m.

Final Minutes accepted at May 14, 2014 meeting

Administration

- In attendance: Esther Cowles, Lucia Kittredge, Ron Klemarczyk, Sara Persechino, Dijit Taylor, Rob Knight
- Minutes of January meeting – approved with minor changes to heading of page and capitalization in Cass.
- Upcoming meeting dates: May 14, June 11 (all at Local History Room at Hopkinton Town Library) Dijit to set dates and secure location for future meetings. Second Wednesdays are still good for most.

Review of 2003 Selection Criteria and priorities

- The committee discussed changes to the revisions of the selection criteria and priorities from the last meeting. Esther volunteered to create and circulate a redraft of changes based on the discussion at the meeting.
- At next meeting we will review the existing selection criteria to see if there are any that can be deleted

Projects

- Beyer Conservation Easement – Neal expects the Board of Selectmen to sign the completed conservation easement late in April or in May.
- The owner of land abutting existing conservation easement land has held a meeting with family members. All the parties are OK with the idea of a conservation easement, although the family may decide to hold out one house lot. Conservation commission has approved having an appraisal done.
- Appraisal – has been delayed. Appraiser may be able to do this one and the one mentioned above for a slight discount if doing the field work at the same time.
- 2015 Historic walk project for June 2015. Item will be kept on agenda for each meeting until committee develops a plan for creating a guide to the history of the Hopkinton Village Greenway and the conservation lands it connects.

Updates

- Website is running smoothly and providing good information to users.
- Farm land currently believed to be on the market is in various portions either (a) not prime ag soil and/or (b) already under flowage easement with the flood control project so not in danger of being converted to developed use, plus some has already been sold

Other

- A possible prospect on the far side of Kimball Lake is mentioned and felt to be of some interest. Committee member to contact the landowner about possible interest in selling to the town.

- Need for a possible trail easement across a little parcel near the Kimball Cabins has been resolved to the satisfaction of the conservation commission
- Fairgrounds provide valuable open space for recreation
- What will happen to Stretch Kennedy's land following his death?

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dijit Taylor, recorder