

Hopkinton Open Space Committee
Wednesday, Wednesday, June 11, 2014 7:15 p.m.

LOCAL HISTORY ROOM Hopkinton Town Library

Final Minutes – approved July 9, 2014

Administration

- In attendance: Bob LaPree, Lucia Kittredge, Ron Klemarczyk, Dijit Taylor,
- Minutes of May meeting accepted as presented
- Upcoming meeting dates: July 9, August 13, September 10, October 8, November 12, December 10 (all at Local History Room at Hopkinton Town Library)

Review of 2003 Selection Criteria and Priorities

- Committee discussed several possible changes
 - Revise purpose statement to say that the text of the entire warrant article that passed the open space bond and created the Open Space Committee is in the Background, Policies and Procedures document, not in the Selection Criteria – yes agreed to this change
 - Clarify language in scenery section to further differentiate between places that look out toward scenic views and places that are part of scenic views - no, the language as presented in the draft is adequate
 - Consider adding co-occurrence (from the Natural Resource Inventory) as a rating tool? No, too much like listed specific properties that are desired for conservation, but OSC should use the co-occurrence info as an internal filter and tool.
 - Final acceptance of the new selection criteria and priorities delayed until next meeting when attendance may be better and all can be correctly formatted
 - Thanks to new OSC member Esther Cowles for her good work assembling committee suggestions into a coherent whole and reformatting into a single page field work friendly document

Old Projects

- Meeting with Board of Selectmen 6/16
 - Lucia will provide map of parcels under discussion for non-public session (but not appraisal values)
 - Dijit will provide summary of OSC activities and accomplishments to date for public part of meeting
 - All members are welcome to attend as schedules permit
- Beyer Conservation Easement
 - still awaiting response from Audubon Society re language in draft conservation easement
- Out lot at confluence of Blackwater and Contoocook Rivers

- committee had further suggestions for elements to include in draft conservation easement: no timber harvest on steep slope leading down to river's edge
- Appraisal(s) and follow up
 - Having taken more time to read and absorb the two appraisals, committee discussed value of various options
 - Dijit to provide simplified summaries of values of each and circulate to committee for confirmation of understanding of the values, then provide to landowners
- Rail Trail element (Bob LaPree)
 - Bob has had contact with the realtor of another nearby lot of some interest and is authorized to contact landowner directly
 - Asking price seems high given the physical constraints of building on the lot
- 2015 Historic walk project remaining on agenda until actions need to be planned in more detail

New Business

- OSC has been invited to participate in a survey of town departments and functions leading to a new Strategic Plan and economic development plan. Committee to provide further input when asked.

Updates

- Trail committee met recently and is continuing to make progress. Complete report foregone because of late hour and almost all present committee members are also active on trails committee

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.