

Hopkinton Open Space Committee
Wednesday, Wednesday, November 12, 2014 7:15 p.m.

LOCAL HISTORY ROOM Hopkinton Town Library

Minutes

Approved at January 2015 meeting

Administration

- In attendance: Bob LaPree, Lucia Kittredge, Dijit Taylor, Rob Knight (Bob will be away for the winter starting with the December meeting)
- Minutes of October meeting approved as corrected
- Upcoming meeting dates: , December 10, 2014; January 14, February 11, March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10, 2015

Old Projects

- Dustin Project Update – Discussion of details of work that needs to be accomplished prior to closing, and who can write the check(s) needed for payment to the owners and 5RCT.
- Beyer Conservation Easement Dijit and Rob have both left message for Phil Brown getting no response. Dijit to try speaking with New Hampshire Audubon Executive Director about organizational commitment to the project
- Out lot at confluence of Blackwater and Contoocook Rivers – Rob reports that some complications to the town ownership of the parcel have been discovered – not quite clear how the town acquired it or from whom. Placing on conservation easement on a parcel that does not clearly belong to the town may not make sense. A little further investigation of past owners may be warranted.
- Appraisal and follow up - Dijit to contact owners, send full and summary appraisal and seek to set up meeting with Ron and the owners if they continue to be interested in a conservation outcome.
- 2015 Historic walk project – Subcommittee consists of Lucia, Ron, Bob, plus Dijit and Sarah in limited roles and some others Lucia will recruit. The idea is to walk the trail with Ron to collect as many ideas as he can think of, then others will organize into a series of pieces that can be included in the actual walk and in a brochure to be made available on line. Current items under consideration for inclusion = Kimball Cabins, New Road (a 4 rod road), Frog Pond/kettle hole, Town Pound, Village Precinct water system, aqueduct lot and land use history back to cows and sheep, different types of stone walls, horse trails, Ransmeier Mill, Old Stage Coach Road theater group & David Camp architect, Graves Road, ad dry route around wetland at bottom of Rollins Road, Hawthorn Forest – stone walls, The “Bow Controversy”, Rachel Johnson story

Updates

- Trail committee report – Had a good meeting with horseback riders. Details of upcoming trail opening discussed. Lucia and Cleve met with another Putney Hill landowner who is excited about trail passing his land.
- New prospect on Hatfield Road has decided that this isn't a good time for them to proceed

- Representative of a landowner has asked if the committee would be interested in a possible donation on Gould Hill Road. Dijit to get back to the agent to learn more about the possibility.
- Bob presents initial expressions of interest about lots on East Penacook and Little Tooky Roads.
- Discussion about whether this is a good year to seek an increase in the allocation of Land Use Change Tax to the Conservation Fund, from the 35% it has been for many years.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dijit Taylor
Recorder