

Dover Open Space Committee
Minutes: December 4, 2012

Present: Amey Moot (Chair), Kate Cannie, Henry Faulkner, Boynton Glidden, Justine Kent-Uritam, Carol Lisbon (Selectmen Liaison), Candace McCann, Rich Oasis, and Barbara Roth-Schechter.

Absent: Jane Brace, Sierra Bright, and Jerry Arnold (Long Range Planning Liaison).

Amey began the meeting at 7:30 PM.

I. Approval of the Minutes

The Minutes of October 2, 2012 were unanimously approved by those in attendance on that day, upon the motion of Barbara with a second by Henry.

II. Town Report

Upon the motion of Rich, with a second by Barbara, Amey's write-up about the Open Space Committee was unanimously approved for submission to the Town Report Committee.

III. New Member

The Board of Selectmen intends to appoint Nancy Dougherty to the Open Space Committee.

IV. Open Space Committee Update on Town Website

A. Walks in Dover

Amey circulated a draft of the major areas in Dover where people might like to walk. Members suggested edits, additions, and deletions to her memo and authorized her to refine it and then submit it to Bill Clark, the town employee in charge of the town's website.

B. FAQ's

Amey also submitted a draft of revisions to the FAQ Section of the town website regarding the Open Space Committee. The Members again authorized her to submit a final version to Bill Clark.

IV. Updates by Relevant Boards

A. Open Space Committee

*Justine will defer action on a letter to Dover landowners until the matter of estate taxes is resolved in Congress.

*There were no updates re Hale Reservation and the Porter property.

B. Board of Health

*Barbara reported that 23 deer have been culled so far this year. The Lyme Disease Committee will circulate a survey to Dover residents in January about their incidence of this disease. A Lyme Disease Forum will be held on April 10, 2013.

*George Giunta has been hired as the town's new well agent. The Board of Health is currently updating both well water and septic regulations and intends to hold a

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public meeting on these topics in early 2013. Town counsel is reviewing the proposed changes. The new process of hydrofracking was discussed since it can have an effect on not only the well that is being fracked but also on the wells of abutters and even those some distance away.

C. Conservation Commission

*Candace reported that bids for the construction of simple bridges in Wylde Woods have gone out to bid. Jerry Arnold is also busy labeling the trails there.

D. Planning Board

*Henry said that the Board is likely to approve, with a few small revisions. the permit to The Trustees of Reservations to construct a parking lot on Powissett Street that will enable people to access Noanet Woodlands.

*The Planning Board has completed the Master Plan and intends to hold a public meeting on December 17, 2012.

E. Parks and Recreation Commission

*Mark Ghiloni has been hired as the new assistant to Dave MacTavish.

* Rich announced that Gale Associates presented an updated rendering of the proposed turf fields at Caryl Park during a recent meeting of his commission. Gale is currently fine tuning the plan and will present the refined plan to Park & Rec sometime in January. According to Rich, there will be an opportunity for the public to comment on this plan at a future date. Rich also envisions this project being funded by private monies only, much in the same manner as the turf fields were financed privately at the Dover-Sherborn Regional Schools.

*There was extensive discussion about this issue. The consensus by a majority of the Members of the Open Space Committee was that the process regarding the redevelopment of Caryl Park has been opaque. Specifically, minutes of the Parks and Rec Commission have not yet appeared on the Town's website. Also, many Members of the Open Space Committee thought that such a large reconfiguration of Caryl Park should be discussed at Town Meeting, regardless of the statutory authority of the Parks and Rec Commission to authorize the work and regardless of whether or not the project is privately or publicly financed.

F. Board of Selectmen

*Carol reported that four Dover Historical Society members, two Selectmen and Dave MacTavish recently walked around the Caryl House which is located within Caryl Park and delineated an area that should not be disturbed by any future reconfiguration of Caryl Park. Some in the Society expressed their concern that the adjacent baseball field detracts from the ambience at the historic Caryl House.

*Regarding the proposed Recreational Trail along the old MBTA railroad bed, Kate reported that the Committee keeps the public informed via an email distribution to about 150 interested people and detailed minutes. Recently, the Recreational Trail Committee walked the abandoned tracks and found most of the area to be flat and free of overgrown shrubs. The Committee has identified four crucial issues

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regarding the trail: finances, parking, accessibility, "Friends" group viability, and abutter issues (e.g., public and safety, especially of the abutters along Centre Street and Knollwood Drive).

*Lastly, a fundraising group known as the Friends of the Trail may be formed as a public charity.

Amey adjourned the meeting at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Justine Kent-Uritam, Member