

**Dover Open Space Committee**  
**November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013**  
**Minutes**

In Attendance: Amey Moot, Jane Brace, Barbara Roth-Schechter, Justine Kent-Uritam, Kate Cannie, Henry Faulkner, Candace McCann, Eric Loeffler, Boynton Glidden

Absent: Sierra Bright (resigned), Jim Dawley, Jerry Arnold

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm in the Lower Conference Room at Dover Town House.

A motion to accept the minutes of the last meeting was made, seconded, and the motion carried.

- Bill Clark, Dover IT Officer, providing each member with a personal town email address. Bill explained that any emails, pertaining to town business, should pass through the town addresses. Bill reminded everyone that any deliberations were not allowed via email, due to the public meeting law. He is available for follow-up, trouble-shooting, and any questions the members might have.
- A potential new member for the Open Space Committee will be proposed at tomorrow's Board of Selectmen's meeting.
- Due to family commitments, Sierra Bright has resigned. In the interest of filling this vacancy, Eric mentioned that his wife, who is involved with Dover school-parent groups, might be willing to post a notice for any interested parties to be in contact with Chair Amey Moot.
- Amey reported on the past two public walks: no one attended the Chase/Peters Reservation walk (Oct 5), in part, due to inclement weather; four (4) attended the Wylde Woods walk on Oct 19. Amey reminded members that this Saturday, Nov 9, there is a 10:30 am walk at Snow's Hill that will be co-led by Boynton and Amey. Anyone interested is encouraged to come.
- Justine is finished for the current year with landowner contacts about land conservation. She is hoping to work with DCLT in the coming year to identify any additional unprotected properties that should be targeted for conservation.

Justine shared that the property at the corner of Chestnut and Dedham Streets is "on hold" for the time-being. The owner will be in contact, should circumstances change.

At the last meeting, it had been suggested that David Kittredge, professor at UMASS, might be asked to present to a Dover gathering about land conservation options. Justine explained that people in Dover are sophisticated about their options; she did not feel that he would not be helpful at this point.

Everyone celebrated the fine press release that had come out about Dover's joint public/private venture that had led to the acquisition of the Brodie property on Dedham Street.

- In news from the Norfolk Hunt Club, Amey announced that the Grounds for Celebration gala for the coming spring will be held on the Thursday before Memorial Day (May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014). There will be two upcoming hunts this month that will be particularly colorful for spectators: one on Nov 11, leaving from the top of Pegan Hill at 10 am (arrive ~9:30) and the annual Thanksgiving Day Hunt, leaving from North Street in Medfield at 9 am (arrive ~8:30).
- Barbara updated business from the Dover Board of Health. The BOH has proposed new tobacco regulations to help combat nicotine use and addiction – to raise the legal age for purchase/sale of tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, from 18 to 21. The measure is soon to be voted on. Updates on the deer/tick program: currently, there are 62 hunters assigned to Dover properties, both private and public. Next summer's intern may be assigned to do a tick-density study by counting ticks in fenced properties [without deer] and comparing that data with tick counts on nearby properties where deer roam freely.
- Henry reported that the Planning Board approved the cul-de-sac on the Kirby development property and restrictions on the remaining 'farm' parcel.

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- Eric reported for Parks & Rec. Mark, the new Asst. Director, is happy to come to Open Space in the new future, and he will be asked for either December's or January's meeting. Everyone clearly appreciates open communication with Parks & Rec.
- Kate gave an update about the Rail Trail in Dover. On October 8, Kate presented the Rail Trail Committee's Feasibility Study to the Board of Selectmen, sharing that there were issues in the report – legal, environmental, engineering, lease, etc. – that the Committee could not address due to a lack of expertise. The BOS concluded that they would like to see a second draft of the Feasibility Study, at which time they will either put the Committee "on pause" or disband the Rail Trail Committee altogether. One of the possible reasons for "pausing" the forward motion of the Committee would be to let Friends of Dover Greenway (previously known as Friends of the Rail Trail) obtain their 501c3 status so they could fund-raise, in part, to pay for consultants who could address the bigger issues in the Feasibility Study. Kate reported that the Friends of Dover Greenway is an enthusiastic group who signed 240 new members during the summer of 2013.
- Candace said that she had run into Jim Dawley earlier in the day, and, that while he could not attend tonight's meeting, Jim had shared that he had attended the Medfield meeting about acquiring State Hospital land. Medfield is carefully considering its options at this time.
- The next meeting of the Open Space Committee will be Dec 3, at 7:30 pm, in the Lower Conference Room at Dover Town House.
- The meeting was adjourned at 9 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Candace McCann