

**DOVER OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 1, 2016**

Members Present: Amey Moot (Chair), Henry Faulkner, Boynton Glidden, Justine Kent-Uritam, Eric Krusell, Greg Kahoun, Tara Nolan and Paul Wood. **Non-Voting Liaison:** Jerry Arnold was also present. **Absent:** Eric Loeffler, Tim Holiner and Candace McCann (Non-voting Liaison)

The meeting opened with a welcome of our newest member Greg Kahoun and brief introductions. The Committee also discussed other potential new members. Justine offered to reach out to one or two possible candidates.

Public Walks:

The next walk will be through Peters Reservation and Chase Woodlands on November 12th. Greg is planning to bring some Scouts. The Pegan Hill walk was attended by four couples and two families with children. The Powisett Farm walk included eight people with Dover connections. Amey mentioned the upcoming Tri-Town walk that goes from Hale through Powisett and then on to Rocky Woods for a social gathering.

Water Resources:

There was general discussion about the presentation at our last meeting regarding water issues. Justine told us that John Thompson had lead 65 - 70 people on a walk through the Medfield State property recently.

The presentation last month has helped focus discussion on various Committees about possible water concerns that may be forthcoming for Dover. Justine informed us that the Ipswich River basin is most imperiled, but the Charles River basin is second most imperiled in the state. Many towns are on the MWRA system, surrounding towns such as Holliston and Medfield have had water restrictions in place all summer that continue to the present, and one nearby investor owned water company (Milford Water Company) has had a problematic history. In addition to the ad hoc committee working on data gathering in Dover, it seems that a more comprehensive review of the issue should be developed, by professionals, in order for the Town to assess whether or not there is a problem. If so, the study should identify the magnitude and timing of any forecasted shortfall as well as possible solutions.

Justine said that in order to get this work done the Town would need to contract for a hydrology study which would likely cost approximately \$155,000. However, to ensure we have the right focus for the study and gather all necessary data, the RFP should be written by an outside consultant and is expected to cost \$9,500. On a motion made by Tara and seconded by Greg, the Committee unanimously voted to support the development of a committee to focus on the water issues facing the Town and to support or sponsor a Warrant Article to get funding for the development of a comprehensive RFP which will help qualify firms and scope the issues to be addressed in a hydrology study, ensuring the final product will be comprehensive and thorough.

Justine is working with Michele Keleher of the Lifetime Learning Program to arrange for re-presenting the materials from the John Thompson presentation so that more people

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in town in have a chance to become familiar with some of the water supply issues facing the region. Gerry Clarke will also be doing a presentation on the results of a well data analysis that he and others are pulling together. They have also discussed having a presentation from a landscape architect regarding plantings that need less water and deep-rooted trees that are better able to survive droughts.

The Committee discussed seeking some small amount of funding to cover materials so that we can print maps and presentations for educational meetings regarding these issues.

Other:

Amey gave an update on Hale reservations efforts to fundraise. The organization is seeking to increase its current very small endowment in part by putting a conservation restriction on land as a way of raising funds. In addition Hale is initiating a capital campaign and coordinating with strong outreach to inner city groups.

Administrative:

The next meeting is scheduled for December 6th in the Lower Conference Area, there was discussion about moving the meeting date to avoid scheduling conflicts. Amey noted that the May OSC meeting could conflict with Town Meeting if it requires an additional night. The Committee decided to stick to the schedule for now and address rescheduling if it becomes a problem.

Amey adjourned the meeting at 9:09 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tara L. Nolan