

MINUTES
Dracut Open Space Committee Meeting
July 9, 2015

IN ATTENDANCE:

Colleen Barclay, Marianne Blanchet, Bruce Cote, Emile Demers, Bill Greenwood, and Karen Merrill, Selectmen liaisons Tony Archinski and Tami Dristiliaras were in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER:

Bruce opened the July 2015 Dracut Open Space Committee meeting at 6:37PM in the Selectmen's Room of the Dracut Town Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Bruce thanked Tony and Tami for their attendance and support.
- Tony noted that there may be some interest in the open positions on our board.
- Tony also reported that Glen Edwards had discouraged his colleagues from throwing him a retirement party, but eventually acquiesced as long as the proceeds are able to be donated to the Open Space committee.
- Tony also states that a fundraiser may be in the works with all proceeds going to the Open Space Committee. Emile suggests that any proceeds be sent to the "Friends of the Open Space Committee." Bill reports that there has been work on creating this type of group already started with the assistance of a lawyer.
- Bruce noted that he talked to Glen who pointed out that Pelham has had selective, or reduced-impact logging done to raise funds for their Open Space committee.

JUNE MINUTES

The June minutes were reviewed by the committee. Bruce reviewed the process for submission of the minutes, which are given to Sam to post and Kathy to log. Bill made a motion to accept the June minutes as amended. Emile seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

ACTIVITY PLANNING:

- o Birding event
Bruce updated the committee and confirms that this event is planned for September 27th at 10AM. Parking will be at Macintosh Drive. Bruce will confirm the date and verify that he has no objections to us taping it. Karen will contact Bob and Gay about taping. Karen also agrees to try to advertise this event to the School Committee, Selectmen, DATV, and Lowell Sun.
- o Videotaping
Karen has talked to Bob and Gay who are willing to tape our site visits. We just need to provide dates. We believe they plan to start with McNamara Way.
- o Proprietors' Way clearing and trail update
The committee agrees that our last site visit was great with filming by Bob and Gay and the support of community members Don Plummer, Glen Edwards and Anne Edwards. Bill reports that he measured it at 1/5 of a mile from where we started to where we have finished clearing. It is noted that the brush is getting much thicker. He also talked to Surveyor Mark Hamel who states that the surveying will be completed within two weeks. Tony reports that this property is a priority and he agrees to talk to Mike Buxton.

○ Long Pond update

Tony and Tami report that the Board of Selectmen remain supportive and have talked to Lori about having this surveyed on previous occasions. It is believed that Town Surveyor Mark Hamel is apprehensive due to the potential aggressive behaviors of the abutters. The committee suggests that if he has a problem, he should not be stymied in his work and he could call the police for support. Tony suggests he take police with him in the first place.

○ Site visit reports

The errors on the CPA sign on East Richardson have been addressed. John Hassan from the CPC is in charge of that.

The committee agrees to meet at Proprietors' Way on July 20th at 6PM. Bruce will send the date to volunteers.

○ Discussion

— Open Space Charter

In response to some discussion about what rules we should be governed by, Bruce did some research on Open Space charters or by-laws. He found that there were few official documents. We had mentioned that as a sub-committee of the Board of Selectmen, that there may be relevant rules for us to adopt. Bruce provided Board of Selectmen by-laws which were on-line and adopted on August 12, 2003. Tony notes that there are more recent versions of this document and promises to provide us with that. We agreed to table this item until we receive that document. At our next scheduled meeting we will go over the updated by-laws line-by-line and review, amend, or modify them to fit our committee. We will also initiate rules regarding the election and terms of the chair, vice-chair and secretary.

— Face Book page

Karen requests that we place an Open Space face book discussion on the agenda for the next meeting.

—Karen notes that our Open Space Guide is not updated on our website. Bruce agrees to send the new brochure to Glen for uploading on our webpage.

ADJOURN:

Bill made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Colleen.

SCHEDULED MEETING DATES:

The following monthly meetings are currently scheduled.

Thursday August 13, 2015 = No meeting scheduled

Thursday September 10, 2015 = Dracut Town Hall, 6:30 PM

Thursday October 8, 2015 = Dracut Town Hall, 6:30 PM

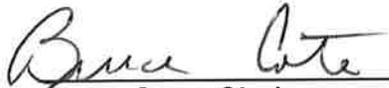
Thursday November 12, 2015 = Dracut Town Hall, 6:30 PM

Thursday December 10, 2015 = Dracut Town Hall, 6:30 PM

THE DRACUT OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Signature Page

July 9, 2015



Bruce Cote, Chairperson



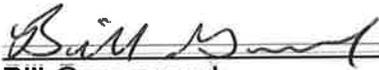
Colleen Barclay



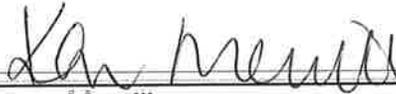
Marianne Blanchet



Emile Demers



Bill Greenwood



Karen Merrill



Dave Sutherland