

**MINUTES**  
***Dracut Open Space Committee Meeting***  
**September 10, 2015**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Colleen Barclay, Bruce Cote, Emile Demers, Bill Greenwood, Karen Merrill, Dave Sutherland, and Selectman Tony Archinski

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Bruce opened the September 2015 Dracut Open Space Committee meeting at 6:35PM in the Selectmen's Room of the Dracut Town Hall.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Tony announced that he wanted to discuss activity at Proprietors' Way and Long Pond.

**JULY MINUTES**

A motion was made to defer the review and acceptance of the July meeting minutes to the October meeting. The motion was seconded and approved.

**ACTIVITY PLANNING:**

o Birding event

All is in place for this event on Sunday, September 27 at 10 AM in the East Richardson Preserve. Karen Merrill has posted information with The Lowell Sun activity calendar, posted an event on Facebook, and has arranged for video.

Bruce Cote had contacted the birder and the bird expert is planning a walkthrough a few days before the event to further plan the visit.

**Action:** Bruce will contact the Committee when the date and time of the walkthrough is set.

o Proprietors' Way clearing

The Committee agreed to meet for additional trail clearing on the Sunday, September 27, at 8:30 (before the bird watching event). The work for that day will be the short section of trail that abuts the Golf Course.

**Site Visits:**

o Proprietors' Way

Tony inquired about the trail marking work done by the Town, the progress of trail clearing and the progress of securing the 15 foot easement from Peggy Ogonowski. The Committee reported that the trail marking did not follow the most recent map for Proprietors' Way and we needed some additional marking. We reported also that the Committee has cleared most of the trail abutting the Golf Course and will need to resolve the 15 foot easement issue before continuing along that trail.

The Committee noted there are two options that would provide this easement. The first would be to pursue the agreement with Peggy Ogonowski for a section of the Ogonowski Farm. The second would be to approach Mr. Zygoras whose land is opposite the Ogonowski's and ask if he'd allow this easement.

**Action:** Tony Archinski will try to find a contact person for the Zygoras property

Finally, the Committee reported that we would benefit greatly if the Department of Public Works could clear the section of trail from Old Marsh Hill Road to the Ogonowski / Zygoras line.

**Action:** Members of the Committee will meet Tony at Proprietors' Way on Saturday, September 12 to walk the trail and provide Tony with an overview of the work.

o **Long Pond**

We reviewed the results of the latest boundary marking activity and determined that additional survey work was needed.

We discussed the status of the Town's action on this property and determined that the current status was unknown.

**Action:** Bruce Cote to research his documents for any additional correspondence on Long Pond.

**Action:** Tony Archinski will discuss this property at a Selectmen Meeting.

Finally, it was noted that the canoe / kayak launch area was overgrown with weeds and needed clearing.

**Discussion – Open Space Charter:**

The Committee reviewed a draft Open Space Committee Charter that is modeled after the Selectmen Charter and made several changes that better reflect the makeup and mission of the Open Space Committee. Bruce Cote will complete these edits and send to the Committee for review.

The Committee will attempt to complete the review at the October meeting.

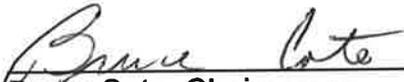
**Adjournment:**

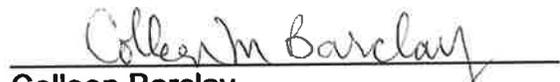
A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and seconded. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

# THE DRACUT OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

*Signature Page*

September 10, 2015

  
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Bruce Cote, Chairperson

  
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Colleen Barclay

  
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Marianne Blanchet

  
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Emile Demers

  
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Bill Greenwood

  
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Karen Merrill

  
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Dave Sutherland

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