

Minutes
Dracut Open Space
Committee Meeting
October 9, 2014

IN ATTENDANCE:

Colleen Barclay, Marianne Blanchet, Bruce Cote, Emile Demers, Bill Greenwood, and Karen Merrill.

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Bruce opened this month's meeting of the Dracut Open Space Committee at 6:35PM in the Dracut Historic Society.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

There were no announcements at tonight's meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No community members were present at this meeting.

REVIEW OF SEPTEMBER 18th MINUTES:

The committee reviewed the minutes of September 18, 2014. Bruce made a motion to accept as amended and Emile seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS ACTIONS AND DISCUSSIONS:

Review Status and Activity of Proprietors' Way

Bill reports that the neighbor continues to put yard clippings on this parcel. He also moved debris and the DPW picked it up.

Discuss Talking Points for the Planned Community Preservation Commission Meeting of 10/21

After some discussion the committee agreed that we plan to remind the commission about the article that was passed at the June Town Meeting, and what we do as a committee. We will then present them with a list of tools and the current prices. We will ask them how we make that purchase and the requisition or reimbursement process.

Karen suggests that we invite our liaisons from the Board of Selectmen. The topic of liability was discussed.

Emile agrees to create a list of tools that we will request and will research the prices. The tools he will research include:

- Stihl Gas Powered Brush Trimmer
- Stihl 14 inch Gas Powered Chain Saw
- Pole Saw
- Hedge Trimmers (#2)
- Loppers (#2)
- Rakes
- Heavy duty, etc.
- Gloves

We will also request additional printing of our trifold flyer

Discuss Presentation/Attendance for Conservation Commission meeting of 11/5

The committee discussed the difficulties created by the encroachment of three neighbors at the Long Pond parcel. We would like to discuss with the commission, our long-term plans to use that parcel to create a public beach and how we can move forward on this effort. We will request an update from them about what the status of their actions as stewards of this property.

Review Public Forum Speaker and Presentation Planning

Karen reports that she recently found the email address for Rick Reault and she will continue to attempt to make contact with him. Bruce reports that he spoke to members of the Lowell Parks Conservation Trust and learned of some possible connections. Two are bee keepers and a third is a bird expert. Bruce will contact them and see if they are available for our forums.

Review Planning for Site Signage Project

Bruce met with the town engineer who created maps for each of the Open Space parcels. We decided that signs would not usually be needed except on trails, instead of the entire property. We agree that the signs that the town already have, the ones with a tree background are most appropriate for our needs.

SITE VISITS:

Reports on Any Activity at Open Space Sites

Bill reports that he moved springs from the Nickle Mine to Jackson Street and the DPW collected them. Emile moved a mattress up from Long Pond for removal.

Plan site cleanup dates

We agreed to continue to defer site clean-ups until after we attend the commissions' meetings.

NEW BUSINESS:

Open Session Reserved for New Items Requiring Committee Attention

--Karen reports that Bob and Gay want to tape all our trails. We agreed to start at the smallest, and the most clean and open trail, McNamara Way. She will contact them to set a date and time.

MEETING SCHEDULE:

--Bill reports that the Dracut Land Trust has postponed the dedication of Smith Farm from October 4th to October 11th at 1PM.

Quarterly Meeting Dates

The committee agreed that our next meetings will be held on:

November 13, 2014 at the Dracut Historical Society at 6:30PM.

December 11, 2014 at the Dracut Historical Society at 6:30PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Karen made a motion to adjourn the Open Space meeting of September 18th at 7:55PM.

Bill seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

THE DRACUT OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

Signature Page

October 9, 2014



Bruce Cote, Chairperson

Colleen Barclay



Marianne Blanchet



Emile Demers



Bill Greenwood



Karen Merrill



Dave Sutherland