

Minutes
Dracut Open Space Committee Meeting
March 20, 2014

IN ATTENDANCE:

Colleen Barclay, Marianne Blanchet, Bruce Cote, Emile Demers, Bill Greenwood, John Hire, Karen Merrill and Dave Sutherland.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

--Bruce opened this month's meeting of the Open Space Committee at 6:30PM in the Meeting Room of the Dracut Historic Society. He announced that the committee has been invited to make a brief presentation to the Selectmen at their meeting on Tuesday, March 25th at 7PM. All committee members are invited to attend if they want.

--Bruce also reports that he will attend this year's MA Land Conference.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No public comments were raised at tonight's meeting.

REVIEW OF FEBRUARY 20th MINUTES:

--The committee reviewed the minutes of February 9, 2013. Some corrections were suggested. Bill made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Bruce seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Amended minutes will be delivered to Bruce with the signature page for him to hand deliver them to Town Hall.

SUBMISSION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES:

--Bruce explained to the committee that he was told by the Acting Town Manager that executive session minutes cannot be released until the purpose for the executive session is resolved. The committee needs to vote to defer submission of the minutes until that time when they vote to release the minutes. Dave moves to defer submission of the executive session of January 23rd. Colleen seconds the motion and it passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

Status of Letter to the Conservation Commission

Bruce reports that he created and hand carried a packet to the commission. The town council's recommendations on the Long Pond parcel were presented the commission, and they suggested that the Open Space Committee refrain from dealing with any of these issues.

Status on Letter to the Town Manager, Assistant Town Manager and the Selectmen

--Bill reports that The Acting Town Manager verbally approved the letter re: Proprietors' Way, and stated that she will forward it to Mike Buxton so he can schedule doing the work.

--Bill reports that the Water Commissioners met last night and they plan to go to the site and do a walk-through outside the fence as soon as weather permits. Bill will reach out to them in the next few weeks.

--Bruce states that when talking to the Acting Town Manager, it was suggested that we should notify the neighbors of our plans. After some discussion, it was agreed that we will wait until our plans are approved and finalized before we communicate with the neighbors.

--Bruce agrees to get a list of abutters so we know who we will have to notify.

Update on Proprietors' Way Videographers

--Karen has not communicated with them, but will wait for the other details to be worked out before she contacts them. Bill will ask Mike Buxton to let us know in advance of the work, then Karen can let the videographers know so they can consider taping some of the work.

Site Visit

--The committee discussed their recent snowshoe activity. They met at John's house on 3/8 and went for about 3 miles. All report that it was an enjoyable workout.

NEW BUSINESS

Report on Meeting with Acting Town Manager

Bruce summarized his meeting with Acting Town Manager, Ann Vandal. Assistant Town Manager Glen Edwards was also present. Bruce's agenda was to introduce the Open Space Committee and his role as chairperson. He also planned to present the committee's mission, goals, plans for Proprietors' Way, the Long Pond Parcel, CPC money and reimbursements. Some of the issues about Proprietors' Way that they discussed were a follow-up with Mike Buxton about potential costs, follow-up with town council to verify that this project can be done, look at potential wetlands issues, notification of abutters and parking on the street near the water district property. Some issues discussed about CPC money included that it will be used for hiking trails; possible items such as wetlands access, bridges, trails, etc.; or personal reimbursement of funds.

UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE

April 10, 2014
May 8, 2014
June 12, 2014

ADJOURNMENT

Karen moved to adjourn this month's Open Space meeting at 7:40PM. John seconded and the motion was passed unanimously.

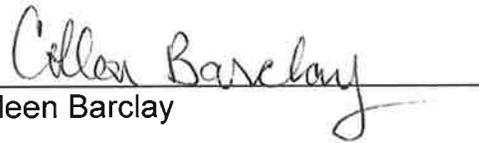
**THE DRACUT
OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**

Signature Page

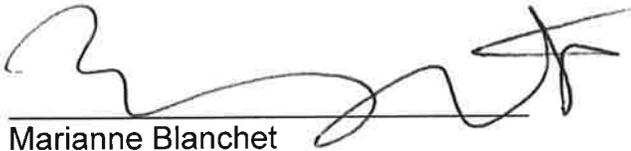
March 13, 2014



Bruce Cote, Chairperson



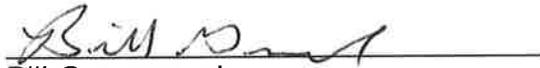
Colleen Barclay



Marianne Blanchet



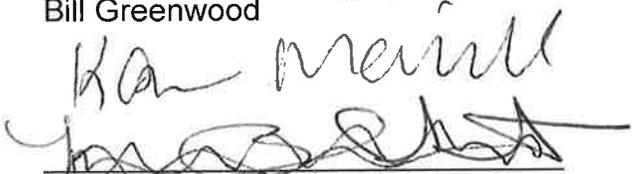
Emile Demers



Bill Greenwood



John Hire



Karen Merrill



Dave Sutherland