

**MINUTES**  
***Dracut Open Space Committee Meeting***  
**September 8, 2016**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

The June meeting was attended by committee members Colleen Barclay, Marianne Blanchet, Donna Corbin, Bruce Cote, Emile Demers, Bill Greenwood, Karen Merrill, and Dave Sutherland. Selectman liaison Tony Archinski was also in attendance.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The September meeting of the Open Space Committee, opened in the Selectmen's Conference Room of the Dracut Town Hall at 6:30PM. Bruce introduced community member Ruth Shaw who is considering applying for an open position on our committee.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Bruce thanked Donna for arranging to have her employer donate new brochures. He pointed out that this saved the committee/town \$200.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

Dave made a motion to accept the July minutes. This motion was seconded by Bill. The motion passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Videotaping** – Karen reported that she was unable to schedule a new date/time to videotape one of our trails, but she will call them before we meet again.

**Proprietors' Way** – Tony spoke to the town manager who does not want the road cleared to a dead end, noting that it may invite citizens to traverse private property without permission. Bill suggested that we request permission to have the first 50 feet or so from the street cleared for aesthetic reasons and because the Water Dept. uses it at times. This is a section where the previous neighbor disposed of his lawn clippings.

**Funds and Allocation** – Bruce agrees to talk to our new Public Works Director, Mr. Patenaude, about storing the tools we purchase.

**Trail Marker** – Dave did further research on materials that we can use for our trail markers. He found some round, colored, plastic discs, about the thickness of cardstock. Different colors can signify different directions (i.e.; to and from a Visitor Center). He also noted that these can be placed high up on trees to avoid damage from animals, vandals, etc. We calculated that one sheet could make approximately 280 4x4in markers or 560 4x2 in signs. We decided that we would start with 50 blue and 50 white markers. Emile will instruct Rockie's Maintenance Service to invoice the town.

**Trail Mapping** – Dave provided information about his work using Garmin GPS to map Tranquility Trail and the Preserve. He had some difficulty translating with a common language. He will continue to try to find systems that coordinate with the town's. Karen continues to work with Google Maps. Bill will speak to Mark Hamel about what system they use

**Yapp Farm** – Bill will talk to Mark Hamel so that Mark can mark the frontage in order to have the front boundaries marked before we can put in a parking lot. He stated that once that is done, the town can have the rocks taken out, etc.

**Facebook** – There have been 65 'likes' on our Facebook page. Karen encouraged the committee to like and share the page. We are aiming for 100 likes by the end of this year.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Committee activity planning for Q4 2016 and Q1/Q2 2017

The committee discussed what activities are top priorities to them.

Dave: Make a trail at the 10 acre parcel of Proprietors' Way, which meets the Richardson Preserve

Bruce: Create a parking lot and access to the existing trail at the Yapp properties.

Karen: Marking of all trails and publicize

Make a trail off the end of the Greenmont Sr. Housing toward the Rifle Range

Dave noted that there is a grant to fund the agreement between the town and the CPC that there would be adequate parking there

Emile: Create a beach with handicapped access to Long Pond with a kayak launch, without boat ramps.

Marianne: Deal with encroachment at Long Pond

Donna: Boule Park launch. Emile expressed apprehension that it needs engineering. All agreed.

Bruce: Become more involved with the Beaver Brook Farm project.

Site visits: The committee agreed to visit the site at East Richardson Preserve, starting at Four Oaks.

Bill Told us that the Boule Park will be opened on November 5<sup>th</sup> at 1PM. Governor Baker will be there. There will be 5 park benches and 3 picnic tables. There will be a granite Black Hawk helicopter in the center.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

--Bruce summarized the meeting and noted action items.

--Colleen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15PM. Karen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

## **UPCOMING MEETING DATES:**

Our meetings are generally held on the second Thursday of each month. All scheduled meetings will begin at 6:30PM in the Selectmen's Conference Room at the Dracut Town Hall unless otherwise noted. The remaining meetings of 2016 are listed below:

Thursday, October 13, 2016

Thursday, November 10, 2016

Thursday, December 8, 2016

# THE DRACUT OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

*Signature Page*  
September 8, 2016

  
Bruce Cote, Chairperson

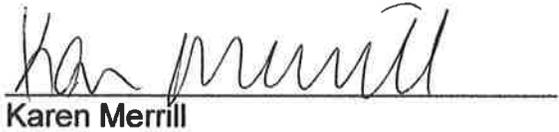
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