

**MINUTES**  
***Dracut Open Space Committee Meeting***  
**June 9, 2016**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

The June meeting was attended by committee members Marianne Blanchet, Donna Corbin, Bruce Cote, Emile Demers, Karen Merrill, and Dave Sutherland. Tony Archinski, Open Space liaison to the Board of Selectmen also attended the meeting.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

The chairperson of the Open Space Committee opened this month's meeting at 6:35PM in the Selectmen's Conference Room at the Dracut Town Hall.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Bruce expressed congratulations to Karen on her recent appointment to the Dracut Finance Committee.

**ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES**

Donna moved to accept the minutes of the May meeting as amended and Bruce seconded. The vote was unanimous.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Videotaping** – Karen told us that she spoke to Bob and Gay separately, and they are prepared to tape the next installment of our videotaping series at Nickel Mine on Varnum Street. We will do that on June 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30. Bruce will review all the documentation and agrees to speak on tape.

**Proprietors' Way** – Tony told us that he spoke to Mike Buxton who agreed to meet with Bill and make a plan for this parcel. Bruce will contact Bill to get a report and ask him to follow up with this.

**Funds** – Emile reported that he and Bruce have a P.O. from a purchase of tools from Dracut Hardware. They ordered an industrial strength Brush Cutter with blades and gas at their cost. This purchase totaled \$994.96. Once these products are delivered, we will plan to use them on Long Pond which is in need of attention. We agreed that the next important purchase will likely be a good chainsaw, but that discussion was tabled for now. Tony agreed to check on the amount that was promised to us annually by the Town Manager. It was the general understanding of the committee that the figure was \$2000.00

**Yapp Farm** – Bruce reported that we have approval from Betsy to start this project. We discussed that we expect the trail to be easy, the anticipated difficulty with this parcel is going to be creating a parking area. We plan to keep this parcel inactive for the time

**Tree Identification Event** – Karen reported on the May 21<sup>st</sup> event. She reported that approximately one dozen people and a 'handful' of children attended the event led by Helen Dunlap and filmed by Leon Leung for DATV. She told us that they started near Helen's home. Among other things, Helen discussed reproductive behaviors of some tree and the reasons for the shape of Massachusetts.

**Boy Scout projects** – None of the Open Space Committee were available to participate in the Boy Scout Project Day on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> but there were scouts on two of our parcels, Nickel Mine and McNamara Way. To the best of our knowledge, the parcels were cleaned up and the trash was taken from the street by the DPW. Tony reported that he was able to attend the Eagle Scout ceremony for Charlie Ritchie that day. He shows us a thank you card sent to him from the scout.

**Trail Markers** – Emile reported that he followed up on the research that Dave began. He has investigated several materials, but he believes that plexiglass is likely the best option. Several questions were raised and Emile agrees to try to rough one up, paint it, and leave it outside in the weather and see how it holds up. He will report back to us at the next meeting. . This expenditure will come from the money donated by Glen Edwards.

**Trail Mapping** – No new information has come up regarding this topic over the course of this month.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

--Tony requested a copy of the current Mission Statement to present to the Selectmen who are reviewing all committees and boards.

**Events and Meetings** – We discussed the schedule for the upcoming summer.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

--Bruce summarized the meeting and noted action items.

--We agreed to schedule the rest of the year's meetings.

--Donna made a motion to adjourn tonight's meeting at 7:50PM. This motion was seconded by Dave and it 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.

Bruce has scheduled the following meetings for the rest of the year

Thursday, July 14, 2016

There are no meetings scheduled for August

Thursday, September 8, 2016

Thursday, October 13, 2016

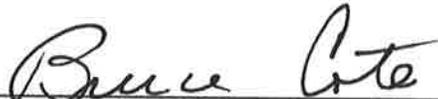
Thursday, November 10, 2016

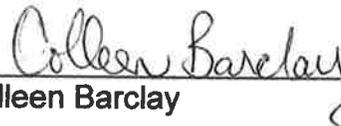
Thursday, December 8, 2016

# THE DRACUT OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

*Signature Page*

June 9, 2016

  
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Bruce Cote, Chairperson

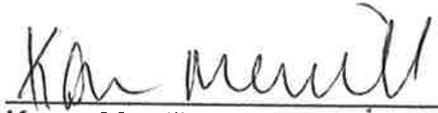
  
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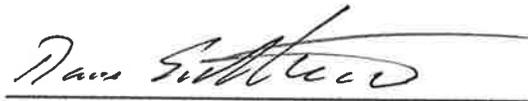
  
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Donna Corbin

  
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Bill Greenwood

  
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Karen Merrill

  
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Dave Sutherland