

**Minutes: Open Space Preservation Commission (OSPC), Town of New Hartford, CT**  
**Regular Meeting: Monday, 11/28/2016, 6:30 p.m., Sessions Conference Room, Town Hall**

Members Present: Jean Cronauer (Chairperson), Rusty Warner, Caren Ross, Karen Griswold-Nelson, Jean Darlington (Secretary). Guest: John Burdick from the Economic Development Commission (EDC). Jean C. called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Caren R. moved that we approve the minutes of the October 24<sup>th</sup> regular meeting. Rusty seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

2017 OSPC Meeting Dates: Jean D. moved that we approve the following dates for our meetings in 2017 (all at 6:30 p.m. in Town Hall): January 23, February 27, March 27, April 24, May 22, June 26, July 24, August 28, September 25, October 23, November 27, December 18. (Note: Except for the December date, these dates are all the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month.) Caren R. seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Report on ASLA Trails Conference: Rusty and Jean C. reported on a recent American Society of Landscape Architects conference. The discussion focused on data regarding economic, recreational, and ecological benefits to towns resulting from trails projects. John Burdick offered to share relevant data the EDC has gathered. We discussed the importance of commissions cooperating on such projects. Jean C. shared information about porous pavement and lighting.

Municipal Guide to Agriculture and Plan of Conservation and Development Implementation Plan: We discussed our commission's role in protecting agricultural land. There are still questions about the Natural Resources Inventory. Jean C. has spoken with Alison Murdock of the Conservation Commission and plans to do so again.

Caren R. advocated focusing on our current open space project, the Butler Farm. We discussed making a timeline for presenting to the Planning and Zoning Commission, the Board of Finance, and the Town. Jean C. plans to speak with First Selectman Dan Jerram tomorrow (11/29/2016). We are still waiting for the sketch of the map of the potential trail that was discussed at our October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. Jean D. will follow up with an e-mail to Dan.

Tax Abatement Tool: No update to report

Executive Session: At 8:06 p.m., Jean D. moved we enter executive session to discuss real estate. Caren R. seconded and the motion was approved unanimously. At 8:13 p.m., Karen G-N moved we leave executive session to discuss real estate. Rusty seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Other business: The NH Land Trust is sponsoring a presentation about bobcats on 11/30 at the Beekley Library.

At 8:30 p.m., Jean C. moved we adjourn. Jean D. seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Darlington, Secretary