

Minutes of New Hartford Open Space Preservation Commission

Regular Meeting: Monday, 4/24/2017, 6:30 p.m., New Hartford Town Hall, 1st Floor Conference Room

Members present: Jean Cronauer (Chairperson), Karen Griswold-Nelson, Madeline McClave, Bill Michaud, Rusty Warner, Jean Darlington (Secretary).

Jean C. called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Opportunity for Public Comment: No members of the public were present.

Approval of Meeting Minutes for March 27, 2017: Postponed until the next meeting

Land Preservation Fund: Bill has a plan to investigate with Town Clerk Donna LaPlante the specifics of the sources of money into the Fund. The OSPC has had the opportunity in the past to review subdivisions and open space set-asides or fees in lieu of open space. Rusty brought up fundraising that the Groton Open Space Association does (GOSAonline.org).

Town Budget Update: Bill plans to use the results of his detailed study to make projections into the future about impacts to the town budget.

Executive Session: At 7:06 p.m., Karen G-N moved we enter executive session to discuss real estate. Rusty seconded and the motion passed unanimously. At 7:40 p.m., Jean D. moved we leave executive session to discuss real estate. Bill seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

OSPC Communication: Jean C. is going to talk to Christine Hayward in the First Selectman's Office about setting up an official mailing list and possibly an official OSPC e-mail address so we can send out updates to people who have expressed an interest in knowing about upcoming events.

Trail Networks: Jean D. will ask Christine about whom to talk to at the State DEEP about installing the yellow blazes on the Brodie to Barella trail. Madeline will have someone she knows contact Jean D. about using GPS to help with mapping the section of the trail that passes through State of CT property onto Town property. We discussed problems with dog-walkers not picking up after their dogs on the trails near West Hill Pond at Brodie Park. We discussed blazing and clearing the remainder of the Antolini-Phillips-Goula trail. We need to make a plan for fall trail work.

Other Business: Jean C. reported on a conference she had attended in Simsbury about Linking Protected Forest Lands. Madeline announced several upcoming events:

- Henry Buck Trail, May 6, 10 a.m., edible and medicinal wildflowers,
- Norfolk Farmers' Market, May 22, bats, year of the pollinator,
- South End Firehouse, May 29, mushrooms and foraging,
- CFPA Trails Day, Nepaug State Forest, Tom Burkholder, June 3.

At 8:00 p.m., Jean D. moved that we adjourn. Bill seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Next regular meeting May 22, 2017.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Darlington, Secretary