

**Minutes of New Hartford Open Space Preservation Commission (OSPC) Regular Meeting**  
Monday, February 28, 2022, 6:30 p.m., Sessions Conference Room, New Hartford Town Hall

**Members Present:** Bill Michaud, Madeline McClave, Karen Griswold-Nelson, Eva Barham (alternate), Jean Darlington (secretary). Absent: Chairperson Doug Roth, Rusty Warner. Bill chaired the meeting in Doug's absence. Bill called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. and seated Eva as a regular member.

**Approval of minutes:** Jean moved to approve the minutes of the 1/24/2022 regular meeting. Karen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

**Updates on Current Open Space Preserves and Trails:**

**Butler Riverfront:** Jean asked about the status of the management plan. Madeline said she will ask the New Hartford Land Trust (NHLT) Board if they have any changes by the end of next week, and then she will contact all of us by email. Madeline reminded members to review the information she had sent us (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dLMPvtS3VqE>) about Tom Zetterstrom's recommended methods of invasive plant control and let her know if we were interested in a NHLT training session with him. Karen recommended that we inform the FRCC and ask if they want to get involved.

**Jones Mountain, Goula Preserve, Phillips Farm:** No news to report.

**Summary of Open Space Preserves for Town Website:** Madeline and Eva volunteered to wrap up writing the shortened PowerPoint in the next three weeks.

**Work on Updating Open Space Plan:** We continued discussing updates. Bill and Madeline had emailed updated acreages for our total preserved lands. Members agreed to email their sections to Jean by March 18th to incorporate into the working draft. We discussed cooperating with the Planning and Zoning Commission because of the connections among the Open Space Plan, the Plan of Conservation and Development, and the Zoning Regulations. Jean volunteered to invite P&Z members to our Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting.

**New Business:** Madeline reported that the New Hartford Land Trust (NHLT), as a member of the Litchfield Hills Greenprint Collaborative (<http://litchfieldgreenprint.org/>), is planning a project to map core forest blocks and wildlife linkages in New Hartford and to identify real barriers on the ground. She said the NHLT intends to involve members of the OSPC, the Conservation Commission, and other interested land use commissions. She said she would send out an email to coordinate dates when people are available. She also reported that the Farmington River will be the main topic of this year's Annual Meeting of the NHLT (date TBA, probably late March or early April).

**Executive Session to Discuss Real Estate:** At 7:20 p.m., Jean moved we enter executive session to discuss real estate. Karen seconded and the motion passed unanimously. At 7:49, Bill announced the end of executive session.

At 7:50, Karen moved we adjourn the meeting. Madeline seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Jean Darlington, Secretary