

Town of New Hartford
Open Space Preservation Commission
Meeting Minutes
August 25, 2014

Members Present: Jean Cronauer, Karen Griswold-Nelson, Madeline McClave, Terry Moreschi.

Chair Jean Cronauer called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. She seated Terry Moreschi, Alternate, for Bill Michaud.

I. Approval of Meeting Minutes

No minutes were presented.

II. Review of Open Space Set Aside – Castellani Blue Ridge Estates

Cronauer reviewed purpose of New Hartford's open space subdivision regulations. This is the first open space subdivision that OSPC has reviewed. Griswold-Nelson commented that special exceptions in the zoning regulations have specific criteria because the plans may be different from what you would expect in a neighborhood under regular subdivision regulations. The group discussed that this proposal does not avoid the conventional gridiron pattern and other issues with the plans. Griswold-Nelson moved, McClave seconded and the group voted unanimously to send a letter to Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the quality, design, connectivity of the proposed open space set-aside. The group agreed to review in the field the connections to the New Hartford Land Trust property that abuts the proposed open space set aside to allow for access between the two properties for hiking, etc.

III. Policy Initiatives: Tax Abatement and Lots of Record

Members discussed the draft of lots of record statement drafted by Ross. Ross will resend with several changes.

IV. Community Farms Program

No discussion as no changes.

V. Stewardship

McClave said that she met with First Selectman Jerram to discuss a possible license agreement with the Jones family regarding their permission for the public to walk across a trail on their property adjacent to the Jones Mountain Open Space Preserve. She also spoke with him about signage for all the Preserves and signs to warn ATV/dirt bike riders of prosecution to be posted along boundary lines starting with Goula Preserve's east side.

VI. Membership

Members discussed recruitment of new members to the Commission.

VII. Executive Session to Discuss Real Estate

McClave moved, Ross seconded and members unanimously voted to enter executive session at 8:10 p.m.

McClave moved, Moreschi seconded and members unanimously voted to leave executive session at 8:30 p.m.

VIII. Other Business: None.

IX. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the OSPC is set for September 22nd.

Motion to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. (McClave/Griswold-Nelson) was approved.

Madeline McClave, Secretary
New Hartford Open Space Preservation Commission