

Minutes of New Hartford Open Space Preservation Commission
Special Meeting Wednesday, 2/8/2017
6:30 p.m., New Hartford Town Hall, basement conference room

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

Guest: Denton Butler

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

I. Butler Farm and Outreach: Bill shared the draft of a PowerPoint presentation that he, Madeline, and Jean C. had prepared for next week's Board of Finance (BOF) meeting (Tuesday, February 14, 2017). We discussed the details of the presentation and agreed to prepare a short fact sheet to hand out to people who want to know the specifics of the project proposal.

Our main goal is to ask the Board of Finance to approve bringing the preservation of Michael Butler's farm to a Town Meeting so the voters can decide if the Town should protect this agricultural/open space easement.

The main points are that this land preservation project aligns very well with the goals of New Hartford's Plan of Conservation and Development and the Open Space Plan, that it promotes quality of life, environmental, and economic development benefits, and that it can be achieved without an impact on taxes.

Rusty volunteered to present at the BOF meeting. Town Treasurer Gordon Ross has also agreed to be there to explain how the project can be accomplished without an impact to taxpayers. Madeline and Rusty volunteered to work on such a handout this week, since it will be needed very soon.

II. Executive Session: We had no need for executive session to discuss real estate.

Jean D. moved we adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. Madeline seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Darlington, Secretary