

**Town of New Hartford
Open Space Preservation Commission**

**Special Meeting Minutes
Rescheduled due to 1/28 Weather Cancellation
February 11, 2013**

Members and Alternate Members Present: Jean Cronauer, Bob LaGoy, Madeline McClave, Bill Michaud and Terry Moreschi (Alternate seated for Caren Ross).

Karen Griswold Nelson (to be appointed and sworn in as Alternate Member soon).

Members of the General Public: Heinz Beier, Jean Darlington.

Member of Economic Development Commission and Planning & Zoning: David Krimmel.

Chair Jean Cronauer called the meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. and seated Alternate Terry Moreschi for Caren Ross.

Public Comments: Jean Darlington said that the Brodie Park South Study Committee proposal was presented to the Recreation Commission on January 13th. Darlington said that Recreation Commission said they would need to learn more about easements before making recommendations to Board of Selectmen. Darlington said there should be markers between active and passive recreation areas as proposed and asked 'How do we protect the meadow between now and whenever the rules take effect?' She recommends limits to hours and intensity of use.

Heinz Beier, who lives across the street from Brodie Park South (BPS), told the OSPC that he has observed changes in wildlife at BPS over past two years that he believes are attributable to escalation of noise, lights and activity at the area. He said that he is concerned that the Town is now mowing more intensively in areas that were previously left for bird nesting until later in the season. He would like the Recreation Commission/Town to schedule more intensive sports activities in other locations.

I. Introduction of New Alternate Member: Cronauer introduced and welcomed Karen Griswold-Nelson, to be appointed as a new Alternate Member of OSPC. Cronauer read comments from Christine Hayward about the two seats required by ordinance and the First Selectman's policy on party affiliation. McClave to draft letter asking for the removal of the requirements for Board of Finance and Economic Development Commission representatives as none can be found who are willing to serve on OSPC.

II. Meeting Minutes: September 24, 2012, minutes were not approved as not on agenda. The November 26, 2012 minutes were taken and e-mailed by Caren Ross and were not presented.

III. Meeting Schedule for 2013: Members decided to change the 2013 Meeting Schedule to meet on the third Monday in May (May 20th rather than May 27th as it is Memorial Day) and on the third Monday in December (December 16th rather than December 20th as it is the Friday prior to Christmas as originally planned). See new 2013 Meeting Schedule attached here. Motion made by McClave and seconded by Moreschi. Unanimously approved.

IV. Open Space Set Aside on two-lot subdivision – Donovan Property: Cronauer said that the subdivision was already approved. The vacant land was all wetland and Rista Malance of Land Use Office recommended a fee in lieu of open space.

V. Presentation by David Krimmel, Economic Development Commission: Krimmel said he is visiting Boards and Commissions to keep them informed about EDC's plans. At their October meeting, EDC took a more positive position to promote economic expansion in New Hartford. He discussed focusing on making the Town a tourist attraction based on recreational

and other opportunities such as river, skiing, antiques, hiking, etc. They will take an inventory of what's in town and what's needed to fill in to make the Town a tourist destination. He said the Town has contracted with a new group to manage the Town web site.

Krimmel also discussed the upcoming revision of the Town's Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) as he is a member of Planning & Zoning Commission. It is due in 2015. P&Z will control it and will not contract it out. They will ask other Boards and Commissions for input. Griswold-Nelson talked about the Cornwall model and involving many different people and groups to get broad input. Darlington talked about involving other people on subcommittees. McClave asked that P&Z reach out broadly and encourage input and participation.

VI. OSPC Budget and Open Space Fund: No discussion and no changes.

VII. Executive Session to Discuss Real Estate: Moved to after next agenda item. Moreschi moved and LaGoy seconded to go into Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. Moreschi moved and Michaud seconded to come out of Executive Session at 8:30 p.m.

VIII. Brodie Park South Study Committee: Jean summarized what has happened recently. The Recreation Committee had a presentation about 'What is an Easement?' about a month ago. Members discussed the general situation.

IX. Stewardship: Members discussed various stewardship issues. McClave said she and Alison Murdock of Conservation Commission will continue working with Chris Craig to get the final draft of Goula Open Space Preserve's baseline report/management plan ready in next few months. Michaud will participate as schedule permits.

X. Policy Initiatives: No discussion.

XI. Other Business: None.

Motion to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. (Moreschi/LaGoy) was approved. Next regularly scheduled meeting will be March 25, 2013.

Madeline McClave, Secretary
New Hartford Open Space Preservation Commission