

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

**Meeting Minutes
March 24, 2014**

Members and Alternate Members Present: Jean Cronauer, Madeline McClave, Karen Griswold-Nelson, Caren Ross. Others: Denton (Bud) Butler, Jeanine Kreh and Tucker Kreh (NWR7 student).

Chair Jean Cronauer called the meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. and seated Alternate Karen Griswold-Nelson for Bill Michaud. She welcomed guests.

I. Election of Chair

Jean said that she met with First Selectman Dan Jerram and that she was reappointed to the Open Space Preservation Commission (OSPC) on March 12th. Ross and McClave raised issues related to Cronauer serving as chair and the importance of a good relationship between OSPC chair and First Selectman and other selectmen. Cronauer stated she felt positive about the situation and would like to continue as chair. Griswold-Nelson nominated and moved that Cronauer be chair and McClave to continue as secretary of OSPC. Ross seconded and motion passed unanimously.

II. Meeting Minutes

No minutes were presented.

III. Membership/Revision of Open Space Ordinance

Cronauer said that revision of OSPC ordinance will be on next town meeting agenda according to Jerram. Members discussed people as possible candidates for OSPC members and agreed that Karen Griswold-Nelson and Gray Horn should be recommended to be named as full members.

IV. Policy Initiatives

Members discussed the two current policy initiatives (tax abatement and lots of record) that OSPC is working on. These should be discussed and finalized at one of our next meetings and then forwarded to the Board of Selectman and land use attorney for the town for review.

Cronauer reviewed the open space plan. She said that the Fund for the Farms Preservation Program will be the Land Conservation Fund.

McClave said that she hopes New Hartford Land Trust, OSPC and Conservation Commission can work together to update New Hartford's natural resources inventory.

V. Community Farms Preservation Program (CFPP)

Bud Butler reviewed information on the CT Department of Agriculture's Community Farms Preservation Program (CFPP) begun in December 2011 for farms under 100 acres in size.

VI. Executive Session to Discuss Real Estate

Griswold-Nelson moved and Cronauer seconded to go into executive session at 8:00 p.m. Cronauer moved and Griswold-Nelson seconded to come out of executive session at 9:15 p.m.

VII. Stewardship: Members discussed various stewardship issues.

VIII. Other Business: None.

IX. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the OSPC will be April 28th.

Motion to adjourn at 9:25 p.m. (McClave/Michaud) was approved.

Madeline McClave, Secretary
New Hartford Open Space Preservation Commission