

# **City of Dover Open Lands Committee**

## **Minutes for October 5, 2006 Meeting**

**Attendees:** Marcia Colbath, Dave Price, Tom Fargo, Dona Layton, Steve Bird, John Scruton, Cheryl Niles, Joyce El Kouarti, Wendy Scribner, Ann Reed, Anna Boudreau

### **#1 Approval of September 14, 2006 minutes**

Several minor corrections in name spellings, etc, were made. Joyce El Kouarti moved, Anna Boudreau seconded, to accept the minutes as amended. Vote U/A.

### **#2 Treasurer's Report**

Committee Treasurer Steve Bird reported that the balance in the conservation fund as of August 31, 2006 was \$613,029.

### **#3 Apple Harvest Day**

Joyce El Kouarti reported on Apple Harvest Day preparations. Tom Fargo will set up and break down. Wendy Scribner will bring animal pelts - a perennial favorite. The committee agreed to allow Great Bay Watch to distribute brochures at the OLC booth & exhibit a display, but expressed disappointment that no staffing would be provided by Great Bay Watch, as in years past. Joyce El Kouarti will email the updated schedule for booth coverage.

### **#4 Reports by Task Groups**

#### **A. Easement Monitoring**

Committee Vice Chairman and Easement Monitoring Team Leader Dave Price reported:

- The Estes-Moll project has DES wetlands violations; DES will follow up to resolve.
- Upcoming monitoring walks include:
  - Bagdon-Kirkwood property
  - McLatchy easement on Spur Road.
  - The Cochecho River Conservation Area (aka former Cassily property). Also, Tom Fargo reported that a neighbor who lives in the area had expressed an interest in helping to monitor the property.

Tom Fargo proposed that the Cochecho River Conservation Area (aka former Cassily property) would be a good candidate for Dover's Adopt-a-Spot program, and there are probably other city-owned and conserved lands that would also be good candidates. There was general committee support for this proposal. Tom Fargo will research further.

#### **B. Outreach and Education**

Outreach & Education Team Leader Dona Layton reported:

The Outreach & Education Task Group met earlier this month to plan for the following three initiatives:

- Farming Panel Discussion – November 9, 2006  
Panelists include UNHCE Land & Water Educator Phil Auger, NH Farm

Museum Education coordinator Kathleen Shea, and NH Commissioner of Agriculture Steve Taylor.

- Workshop on Wildlife Habit/Golden Age of Wildlife in the Seacoast – January 2007
- Proposed presenter NH Fish & Wildlife Biologist Eric Orff
- Public walk/tour of one of the OLC's recent conservation successes – April 2007  
Anna Boudreau will check with Brownes and/or Edith Holley

**C. Grant Writing**

NH Estuaries Project wetlands grant application deadline extended.

**D. Trails**

No report.

**#5 Update on acceptance of Land Trust Standards and Practices. LCHIP requirement.**

Tom Fargo reported that he had sent the Open Lands Committee's commitment letter, prepared by Committee Vice Chairman Dave Price, to Darrell DeTour at NH LCHIP. LCHIP requires all program participants to comply with Land Trust Standards & Practices.

**#6 Update on Public Projects**

The City of Dover closed on the following projects in September 2006:

- Tuttle Phase II
- Stern
- Holley (September 27, 2006 at 10:26 a.m.)

Tuttle Phase III – Committee Chair Marcia Colbath, Conservation Commission Chair Tom Fargo, and several Open Lands Committee members attended a NH DOT public hearing regarding the Dover-Newington Bridge in September. All spoke in support of the mitigation package proposed for Dover, which would provide funding needed to close on Tuttle and another parcel in the Blackwater Brook area. Next step: the proposal goes to special committee.

**#7 New Business**

Election of officers – A nominating committee that includes Joyce El Kouarti, Dona Layton and Cheryl Niles was formed. Current Committee Chair Marcia Colbath, Vice Chair Dave Price, and Treasurer Steve Bird have all been nominated to serve for another term. The nominating committee will now be charged with rustling up a secretary.

**#8 Enter nonpublic session – Reports on the status of individual land protection efforts/transactions per RSA 91-A:3. Acceptance of September 14, 2006 nonpublic minutes.**

Dave Price moved, Cheryl Niles seconded, that the Committee enter nonpublic session per RSA 97-A:3. Roll-call vote U/A.

Joyce El Kouarti moved, Anna Boudreau seconded, to exit nonpublic session. Vote U/A.

**#9 Adjournment**

Joyce El Kouarti moved, John Scruton seconded, to adjourn. Vote U/A.

Respectfully submitted by Joyce El Kouarti