



CITY OF DOVER

OPEN LANDS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: Council Conference Room – 288 Central Ave, Dover, NH
Meeting Date: **Thursday, January 04, 2007**
Meeting Time: **5:30 pm**

Attendees: Marcia Colbath, Dave Price, Dona Layton, Steve Bird, John Scruton, Cheryl Niles, Joyce El Kouarti, Wendy Scribner, Anne Kotlus, Anna Boudreau

Guests: Jeff White, Kevin McEaney (Strafford Rivers Conservancy), Mike Garrepy (Long Hill Realty Investments)

Approval of December 7, 2006 minutes

Several minor corrections in name spellings, etc, were made. Steve Bird moved, Dona Layton seconded, to accept the minutes as amended. Vote U/A.

Treasurer's Report

Committee Treasurer Steve Bird reported that the unreserved balance in the conservation fund is \$329,837.

Tsimekles Project

Mike Garrepy of Long Hill Realty Investments discussed the Tsimekles project on Sixth Street. The property is 104 acres total. The development team has met with the Planning Board several times. The current concept plan features 23 lots in an open space subdivision, which would leave 90 acres of mostly wet backland undeveloped.

Garrepy presented an alternative proposal: instead of developing 23 lots along the road, develop only 4 lots and sell the development rights to the remaining 19 lots to the City. This would place between 95-100 acres in conservation, including a good deal of upland road frontage that would help preserve the scenic viewshed from Sixth Street.

The project is also a strong candidate for DOT mitigation funding. The DOT has requested input from the Dover Open Lands Committee on the project.

Joyce El Kouarti moved, Anna Boudreau seconded, a motion to endorse a development scenario that would place all but four lots in conservation easement, to pursue DOT mitigation funding, and to encourage both the DOT and the developer to have the property appraised in an effort to preserve the property's high quality upland and wetland habitats. Vote U/A; Steve Bird and Marcia Colbath abstaining.

Reports by Task Groups

A. Easement Monitoring

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

- Dave has almost completed all the reporting for the Cassily project. He will submit the final report to LCHIP.
- Baseline documentation needs to be completed on the Tuttle property.



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B. Outreach and Education

Outreach & Education Team Leader Dona Layton reported:
The Outreach & Education Task Group needs to reschedule the Farming workshop.

C. Grant Writing

There will be a Farm and Ranchland Protection Program grant meeting on January 18 in Concord to overview the updated grant requirements.

D. Trails

Marcia Colbath reported that she, Tom Fargo, and Bruce Woodruff met with Chuck Minor from NH Fish and Game (F&G). F&G has expressed a strong interest in working with the City to enhance the trail network that runs behind Liberty Mutual and Measured Progress, particularly by the Watson Road entrance. They propose to manage improvements such as the construction of a parking lot, signage, information kiosk. They would also like to clean up the area near the dam so people can fish there. Dona Layton noted that there is currently a “No Trespassing” sign on the property that needs to be removed. Marcia Colbath will take steps to ensure that the sign comes down.

Update on Public Projects

The final phase of the Tuttle project will close next week.

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.

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

Ann Kotlus moved, Cheryl Niles seconded, to approve and seal the nonpublic minutes of December 7, 2006. Vote U/A.

#9 Adjournment

Steve Bird moved, Cheryl Niles seconded, to adjourn. Vote U/A.

Respectfully submitted by Joyce El Kouarti