



CITY OF DOVER

OPEN LANDS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: Council Conference Room – 288 Central Ave, Dover, NH
Meeting Date: **Thursday, June 7, 2007**
Meeting Time: **5:30 pm**

In attendance: Joyce El Kouarti, Dona Layton, Anna Boudreau, Steve Bird, Ann Reid, Marcia Colbath, Cheryl Niles, John Scruton, Anne Kotlus, Geoffrey Njue, Dave Price

Guests: Chris Parker, Eric Kelsey

1) Approval of Minutes.

Cheryl Niles moved for approval of May 3, 2007 minutes as amended. Second by Anna Boudreau. Motion passed unanimously.

2) Chris Parker introduced himself as the new Director of the Planning Department for the City of Dover. Mr. Parker explained that he will be organizing a land use summit meeting in the near future for all land use boards in Dover. This will be an opportunity for all land use boards to meet and discuss future needs and goals of land use in Dover.

3) Treasurer's Report.

Balance of the Conservation Fund as of April 30, 2007 was \$403,752.10.

4) Guest Speaker: Eric Kelsey, Dover Energy Advisory Committee

Mr. Kelsey discussed sustainable agriculture and the U.S. dependence on oil. Mr. Kelsey discussed the concept of "peak oil" in which extraction of oil follows a bell curve. In 2005, the U.S. peaked at 85 million barrels of oil per day. Half of the projected oil supply is still in the ground, but it will become more expensive to extract. Oil is important for uses in transportation, heating, and food supplies. The food that the U.S. consumes travels an average of 1,500 miles to its destination within each household. There is a direct correlation of the price of oil and the price of food. As the price of oil increases so does the price of food.

Some solutions to reduce the dependence on oil are as follows:

- a) grow food locally and organically;
- b) lessen dependence of importing;
- c) utilize open lands for community gardens;
- d) eat locally which usually allows for less packaging (farmer's markets), less transportation and cleaner air;
- e) preserve open spaces for farmland;
- f) educate city leaders about locally grown agriculture.

Community gardens need to be in close proximity to people and neighborhoods to be successful and farmer's markets need to be promoted and convenient to be successful.

Dona Layton asked what Dover can do to promote agriculture. Joyce El Kouarti suggested a workshop on local agriculture for city leaders and the public to promote local agriculture.

5) Update on Public Projects.

a. Tsimekles

Steve Bird reported that he has drafted a letter, for Marcia Colbath's signature, to be sent to the Department of Transportation ("DOT") stating that Dover is currently working with the developer on the conservation easement of the property. The appraisal of the property is expected to be completed in July. Steve Bird asked Bill Janelle, DOT Bureau of Right-of-



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Way, if the appraisal needs to be “yellow book” appraisal. Mr. Janelle stated that the appraisal does not need to be “yellow book”.

b. Hunt

Anna Boudreau reported that the closing documents have been submitted to the Natural Resource Conservation Service. OLC is waiting for Federal (Washington, D.C.) review of the appraisal, title search and policies. The baseline documentation reports are completed. Steve Bird reported that the city will purchase title insurance as discussed with city attorney Allan Krans.

6) Reports by Tasks Groups.

EASEMENT MONITORING – Dave Price reported that the easement monitoring team will be conducting easement monitoring on the Murphy property on June 13, 2007 at 5:00 pm. An e-mail announcement will be sent out to OLC and Cons. Com. prior to the monitoring.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION – Dona Layton reported that the Energy Advisory Committee will be presenting in Manchester for Cool Cities. Ms. Layton would like to discuss the mission of the OLC at the Cool Cities presentation. Marcia Colbath motioned to allow Dona Layton to present the mission of the OLC at the Cool Cities presentation in Manchester. Second by Anna Boudreau. Motion passed unanimously.

GRANT WRITING – No news.

TRAILS – On June 1, 2007, Marcia Colbath, Tom Fargo, Chuck Miner (NH Fish and Game), and a representative of the Department of Environmental Services Dam Bureau met at the Measured Progress property to discuss signage of the trail. The trails committee will also schedule a meeting with Liberty Mutual to discuss signage. Marcia Colbath reported that the signs will be made by prisoners at the state prison. Marcia Colbath states that there have been discussions on creating a parking area for the trail, providing handicap access, and maintenance of the trail. Dona Layton suggested that the city invite the employees of Measured Progress and Liberty Mutual to any dedication ceremony for this section of the trail. John Scruton asked if there were going to be any mile markers for the trail. Marcia Colbath stated that there have been discussions regarding location markers for the trail.

- 7) Anna Boudreau motioned to enter into nonpublic session to discuss the status of individual land protection efforts/projects per RSA 91-A:3. Second by Dona Layton. Motion passed unanimously.
- 8) Anne Kotlus motioned to exit nonpublic session and seal the nonpublic minutes. Second by Ann Reid. Motion passed unanimously.
- 9) Anna Boudreau motioned to adjourn. Second by Ann Reid. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm. June 2007 minutes respectfully submitted by Dave Price.