

**CITY OF DOVER OPEN LANDS COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Dover City Hall, City Council Chambers**  
**February 3, 2005**

Present were: Anna Boudreau / Ann Reid / Joyce El Kouarti / Marcia Colbath / John Scruton / Tom Fargo / Geoffrey Njue / Dave Price / Steve Bird / Chris Snow / Dona Layton / Janice Gardner. Guest present: Bob Meyer

1) APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES: Moved by Joyce El Kouarti, second by Ann Reid to amend the draft of the January minutes. Members will send suggested changes and the amended minutes will be voted on in March.

2) TREASURER'S REPORT: Steve Bird reported that our current true balance is \$563,914. This reflects a December balance of \$831,894, of which \$267,980 is encumbered for January closings.

3) Reports on Subcommittees

EASEMENT MONITORING - The committee will meet in late February. Anna and Dave and team are almost finished documenting the easements, but there are still gaps in the easement folders. Some are missing photographs, which can't be taken now because of the snow cover. Anna will schedule a subcommittee meeting for late February to discuss what's left to do. Joyce spoke to Bob Meyer about the possibility that he might become an easement monitor for conservation land near Alden Woods. Tom mentioned there are parcels of conservation land with deed restrictions in the Alden Woods area that also need monitors.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION - will meet on 2/17 to discuss the location of the vernal pool workshop, plus plans for the balance of this year. Committee will ask Dea Brickner Wood to its meeting in March to give a joint presentation of the findings of the habitat study to the OLC and the Conservation Commission. Dona will extend the invitation to Dea. On February 17, the subcommittee will talk about a public workshop to feature the habitat study.

GRANT WRITING - Joyce informed members that the deadline for both the Farmland and Ranch Protection and Grassland Protection grants is April 5, 2005. The grant writing committee will meet on a "needs" basis to mount grant writing efforts for upcoming projects.

TRAILS - Will hold their first meeting on February 7, at 4p.m. in city council chambers. John mentioned he's become acquainted with Russ Leonie, an individual who gives talks on using geotech fabric technology to restore gravel on trails. John suggested that Mr. Leonie might be a good speaker for a future outreach and education workshops. Joyce announced that the United Way Seacoast has various corporate volunteers who are interested in doing work to clean and restore trails. She thought that we could utilize their services on the Cassily property, which is associated with the proposed greenway to run from downtown Dover to the County Farm.

LANDOWNER ACTION- will meet on February 17 at 6:30 p.m. to review the *22 Steps for Protecting Land in Dover* and to revisit the landowner target list using the new maps.

4) NEW BUSINESS:

- The CARE Inc parcel development is going to the Planning Board on February 8. At issue is ground water protection. First the Planning Board must change zoning from industrial to residential / commercial. Part of this parcel is in Madbury.
- Tom informed the committee that LCHIP is conducting a “Call for Projects” for a LCHIP Potential Projects Inventory for 2005-2006, which asks New Hampshire communities to submit descriptions of the projects they would potentially be submitting in the next 2 years. This information will be used in discussions with the Governor and the Legislature to determine LCHIP’s funding for the next biennium. The deadline for communities to submit their Self-Assessment Eligibility Forms is February 14, 2005. We will need to provide the names of specific parcels, so it will be necessary to get permission from landowners to cite their names on Eligibility Form. Dona will complete the list and self-assessment form.
- A proposal to build a Planned Unit Development (PUD) was submitted to the Planning Board for the location of Mast Rd. and Durham Rd. Tom said that there may be some Groundwater Protection Zone issues related to this project. The land would have to be rezoned in order to accommodate the construction of a PUD. Steve Stancel has suggested Contract Zoning to expedite the project. Tom will keep the committee informed as the project develops.
- Tom made a suggestion that the committee begin to engage in more regional land protection efforts in collaboration with other communities. He spoke with Laurel Cox from the Lee Open Lands Committee, and among the towns that might take part are Madbury, Lee, Portsmouth, Barrington and Rochester. He plans to meet for informal talks with the Strafford Rivers Conservancy and SPNHF. The goal is to perpetuate a contiguous greenways beyond municipal borders. A meeting date will be announced. The Landowner Action subcommittee will select a member to represent the OLC on the committee of regional communities.
- Dona will attend the February 9 meeting of the City Council to seek their support for the OLC resolution to restore funding for LCIP. The resolution will be sent to Governor Lynch.
- At this time, the committee voted to go into executive session in order to discuss individual land transactions.
- Adjournment: 7:35 p.m.