

**City of Dover Open Lands Committee  
Minutes of July 7, 2005  
Dover City Hall, City Council Chambers, 5:30 p.m.**

In attendance: Anna Boudreau, Marcia Colbath, Dona Layton, Tom Fargo, Steve Bird, Chris Snow, Wendy Scribner, Dave Eisler, Anne Kotlus, Jan Gardner, Cheryl Niles, John Scruton, Dave Price. Absent: Ann Reid, Joyce El Kouarti, Geoffrey Njue, Sherri Towle.

- 1) On a motion by Tom, second by Cheryl, the Committee voted unanimously to accept the June minutes as amended.
- 2) Treasurer's report.  
Balance of the Conservation Fund as of June 30 was \$936,240.23
- 3) Reports by Task Groups:

EASEMENT MONITORING – Subcommittee is continuing its easement monitoring activities. Dave and subcommittee members recently monitored two properties. Dave will continue to keep the entire OLC informed of the monitoring schedule.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION - Dave Eisler will give a full report in August of the “Garrison Hill Revealed” project by the Dover Main St. group and the Dover Historical Society, and on the text that might be used in this project to talk about Dover's natural history and about land conservation.

GRANT WRITING - OLC received a letter from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) which informed the Committee of the Farm and Ranchland Protection Program's (FRPP) “call for projects”. FRPP has sent this request in order to determine its funding needs for 2006. Dona will respond to the FRPP “call for projects” if to do so will be applicable to any of our current projects at this time.

TRAILS - On 6/11 many of our committee met to do a clean-up of the Cassily property. Mr Cassily provided a truck to transport items to the dump.

The Community Trail meeting will be held on 7/18 at 7 p.m. in City Council Chambers. Dona will attend the informational meeting to make a statement of support for the project on behalf of the OLC.

Marcia & Tom attended a workshop at the Urban Forestry Center on 6/28. Topic was accessible trails. Marcia will attend a conference on trails, in Minneapolis 7/27 - 31.

Marcia & Dave E will seek info on the economic development aspects of trails. Chris will seek support for the Community Trail from the Dover Chamber of Commerce.

LAND ACTION – A ceremony to dedicate the former Cassily property on Sixth St. as the Cochecho River Conservation Area will be held in July. Joyce is organizing this event. Tom has acquired a sign from LCHIP to post on the portion of the land near Beckwith Park. There was a discussion of acquiring a second sign to post on Whittier Street. Tom will look into this possibility. Dave Eisler motioned to place a sign a second

LCHIP/Cocheco River Conservation Area sign at the Whittier St. access to the land.  
Motion passed unanimously.

4) New Business:

Dona spoke to the growing work load of the committee and expressed her concern that, “We are in danger of being swamped”. The number of projects has grown beyond the capacity of Joyce & Anna to serve as project managers on each and every one. Dona proposed a couple of solutions.

- A. In some cases, the OLC refers landowners to other land trusts, such as Strafford Rivers Conservancy.  
OR
- B. More OLC members begin to work with landowners. In this scenario, one willing member with little or no experience in working with landowners will partner with a second more experienced member on a project.

Marcia objected to the idea of referring Dover landowners to other land trusts. She felt that the OLC would be relinquishing its responsibility to the City by doing so. Members were in agreement with Marcia on this point. The OLC concluded that the proper solution would be to team one inexperienced member with an experienced member on projects, and not to refer landowners to other land trusts for assistance. General feeling was that it was time to encourage more members to become experienced with working with landowner.

- 5) Dave Eisler moved to enter into non-public session to discuss individual land protection projects. Second by Cheryl. Motion passed unanimously.
- 6) Unanimous vote to end non-public session and to return to public session of the meeting.
- 7) Tom moved to accept the June non-public minutes. Seconded by Anna. Vote was unanimous to accept non-public minutes.
- 8) Dona determined that we should postpone the discussion of LTA standards and practices until our next meeting in August.
- 9) Jan moved to adjourn. Second by Anna. Vote was unanimous.
- 10) Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.