

**Open Lands Committee
Public Meeting Minutes of November 3 , 2005
Council Chambers, Dover City Hall, 5:30 p.m.**

In attendance: Dona Layton, Marcia Colbath, Anne Kotlus, John Scruton, Dave Eisler, Cheryl Niles, Steve Bird, Dave Price, Wendy Scribner, Joyce El Kouarti, Janice Gardner, Tom Fargo.

1. Motion by Joyce, seconded by Tom to go into confidential session to discuss individual land conservation projects.
2. Motion by Tom, second by Cheryl to seek the opinion of the City Manager about applying the “flip” scenerio as a means to conserve a specific parcel. Steve said we needed to present examples as precedents in that discussion. Wendy said she had asked Phil Auger about this, but Phil did not believe this had been applied yet in New Hampshire. Motion passed U/A to talk generally about this with the City Manager.
3. Tom moved, second by Anne that we approve the non-public minutes from October. Passed U/A.
4. Anne moved, second by Joyce to approve the minutes from the October public meeting Passed U/A.
5. Treasurer’s report: As of 9/30 our balance was \$1,017,744. All but \$50,000 is committed.
6. Election of Officers for 2006: Motion by Tom, second by Joyce, to accept the Nomination Committee’s recommendations for officers for 2006. On a unanimous vote the following individuals were elected to serve in 2006: Chair - Marcia Colbath, Vice Chair - Dave Price, Secretary - Dave Eisler, Treasurer - Steve Bird. New officers will begin their terms in January 2006. Congratulations!
7. Tom moved, second by Joyce to recommend an expenditure of \$1.5 million from the Conservation Fund to pay Dover’s portion to conserve Tuttle Farm. Passed U/A.
8. Reports by Task Forces

EASEMENT MONITORING: The easement monitoring team will monitor the Bragdon / Kirkwood property next week.

OUTREACH & EDUCATION: Tom discussed the need for us to educate the public about the conservation lands in Dover. It will help garner more public support for conservation. Tom and Joyce are preparing a map of Dover’s green space. Marcia talked about the need to have open space throughout the city, not only in isolated segments. The outreach task group will meet soon and discuss outreach and education activities for 2006.

GRANT WRITING: Discussion of grants of interest: A federal grant to protect endangered species, Celp, NH Estuaries, FRPP for Tuttle.

TRAILS: The Community Trail project is gaining support from abutters. There will be no gates on the trail. Discussion about a walk-through tunnel under the Silver St. bridge. The responsibility of long-term maintenance must be of primary concern. Signage is important. Suggestion that signs include “rules of the trail”. Tom suggested we establish a fund to cover the cost of maintenance and easements.

Move to adjourn by Dave Eisler, second by Steve Bird. Passed U/A. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.