



CITY OF DOVER

OPEN LANDS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: 2nd Floor Conference Room, 288 Central Ave., City Hall
Meeting Date: **Thursday, March 15, 2018**
Meeting Time: **5:30 PM**

Members Present: Anna Boudreau (Chair), Malone Cloitre, Grant Killian, Nicholas Kline, Anne Kotlus, Kristen Murphy, Nancy O'Connor, Nick Shonka

Staff Present: Steve Bird

1. Roll Call Attendance

Boudreau (Chair) called meeting to order at 5:30 and conducted a roll call and confirmed a quorum.

2. Citizens Forum

Boudreau reported the resignation of two OLC members: Andy Goodell and Mike Castaldo. Dan Tothill, a member of the community sitting in on the meeting, is considering joining the OLC and O'Connor shared that she may know of another new member interested in joining.

3. Approval of minutes

With the amendment to the Feb 2018 minutes of section 7 "New Business" that it was Bird, Murphy, and Boudreau who were the "We" who met with Chris Parker regarding CIP, Kotlus motioned to approve the amended minutes from 2/15/18. Murphy seconded. Vote: Unanimous with the abstention of O'Connor.

4. Treasurer's Report

Bird reported the balance as of February 28th, 2018 of the conservation fund was \$183,542.70 with the receivables at \$88,511.20. Bird provided a quick summary of how the Conservation Fund works and what "current use" means etc.

5. Public Projects

Bird shared an update on Dot Mason – their attorney has the mortgage subordination paperwork from their bank. This is progress. Boudreau clarified that this opportunity is a donation in terms of the easement rights.

6. Reports by Task Groups

- a. Easement Monitoring
Bird and Killian cancelled their monitoring plans for Weds. March 7th due to a snow storm. O'Connor volunteered her availability on Feb. 24th to go with Boudreau to the Watson property. Boudreau mentioned that property monitoring will resume in earnest in the Spring, once snow has cleared.
- b. Outreach and Education
 - Murphy reported that the Full Moon Snowshoe event had to be cancelled due to lack of snow. She presented an option to collaborate with the Seacoast Audubon Society on a nature walk near County Farm in mid-April (date to be determined). Another option is in May for a "woodcock walk" also with the Audubon Society. Murphy was meeting with Dan Hubbard of the Audubon Society to walk the Cassily property on March 16th. Murphy is looking into a clean-up at the Cassily property as part of the Dover Spring clean-up effort.
 - Cloitre left a message with the Great Bay Rowing Club about OLC doing a Cochecho River clean-up as part of a kayak event. She's thinking early September for this event.
- c. Trails
 - Boudreau and Bird agreed that the Dover Trails committee didn't have a meeting this month



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- Boudreau introduced the idea of having Melissa Paly, Great Bay Waterkeeper, present to the OLC in April. After consideration, the committee proposed having Paly do a talk for the broader community, this conserves the April OLC meeting time for focused monitoring planning.
- Murphy shared that the Arts Commission is still looking for artists to paint the pedestrian tunnel under Silver St. O'Connor suggested the concept be extended to have art a part of the entire trail.

7. New Business

- a. Climate Adaptation Chapter of the Dover Master Plan
 - Bird circulated excerpts from the Master Plan and pointed out the whole document is online. He pointed out action items #38 and #39 from the plan have special OLC relevance as it ties into our goals. Bird pointed out how this plan is a milestone and innovative for our region. Boudreau agreed that the plan is “ambitious, important, and shows Dover is serious about conservation.”
 - Shonka asked if property valuations or appraisals consider the potential climate change dimensions for the property. Bird responded that there has been some incremental movement in areas, but only in the flood insurance market was there really anything consequential.
- b. OLC Goals for 2018
 - Boudreau presented the 2017 goals and suggested we continue the same general direction. The OLC would emphasize *stewardship* (monitoring) since *acquisition activities* (new easements) are limited due to budgetary reasons. Murphy commented this was reasonable, and she would like to build more familiarity with the properties. O'Connor and Shonka suggested a large map could help everyone visualize and learn. Shonka suggested a dedicated time in each meeting to review the next set of properties to be monitored. There was brain storming of ideas on how to prioritize monitoring efforts, and Boudreau pointed out a dedicated stewardship coordinator role could be an answer. O'Connor expressed interest in such a role, but Bird would need to remain the official contact for land owners due to his capacity as a city employee. Boudreau will coordinate with Bird and Murphy to propose the next easements to monitor and the plan is for the April OLC meeting to focus on this.
 - Boudreau also suggested “field meetings” where, in lieu of conventional meetings for a given month, we meet at a monitoring location and combine training for other OLC members as well as address our need for property monitoring. Kline offered that we could “divide and conquer” by splitting into small teams to monitor more than one property during this time. The group agreed on the need for a map and list of monitored properties to help this planning in April.
 - Boudreau is going to update the goals for the OLC for 2018 and present them at a future meeting.

8. Old Business: None

9. Enter Non-public Session

At 6:51, Murphy motioned to enter non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II(d), to report on the status of individual land protection efforts and transactions. Kotlus seconded. On roll call vote, all approved.

Returned to public session at 7:07.

Kotlus made a motion to seal the non-public minutes per RSA 91-A, III, because divulgence would render the proposed action ineffective. O'Connor seconded. All approved.

Boudreau declared the meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.