



**CITY OF DOVER**

## OPEN LANDS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting  
Meeting Location: First Floor Conference Room, 288 Central Avenue  
Meeting Date: **Thursday, June 20, 2019**  
Meeting Time: **5:30 PM**

**Members Present:** Anna Boudreau (Chair), Isaac Epstein (Secretary), Bruce Batchelder, Nabia Fortier, Malone Cloitre, Ann Reid, Kristen Murphy

**Absent (Excused):** Anne Kotlus, Nick Kline, Nancy O'Connor

**Absent (Un-excused):**

**Staff Present:** Steve Bird

### 1. Roll Call Attendance

Boudreau called meeting to order at 5:35. Roll call was done and confirmed a quorum.

### 2. Citizens Forum

We need get our reservation in by July 31st for the 35th annual Apple Harvest Day.

Discussed the General Sullivan Bridge and its eventual replacement.

The Chair welcomed Murphy back.

### 3. Approval of Minutes for May 21, 2019

Reid motioned to approve the previous minutes and Fortier seconded. All approved.

### 4. Treasurer's Report

Bird reported that the Conservation Fund as of 5/31/19 was \$682,703.17 with the receivables at \$267,225.00. Boudreau asked Bird if we could ask the finance people could start tracking amount received so far from TDR.

### 5. Public Projects

Cloitre said that she's had a difficult time reaching Rep. Conley to work on a community garden project. Bird sent a list of potential places, few are idea for access issues. There is a potential of getting a grant to help finance the project.

### 6. Reports by Task Groups

#### a. Easement Monitoring

Batchelder and Kline did Stern/Forbes. They thought that there has been some additional clearing on the Forbes project. Bird noted that the owner is working to create rabbit habitat. Discussion about New England and Eastern cottontail rabbits. Discussion about some the properties close to Forbes.

Murphy and O'Connor did Day-Truax and Murphy/Ridgeway. Day-Truax: conserved with DOT as mitigation for the Newington Bridge. Blackwater Brook runs through it. Murphy met with the property owner, who have not really explored it. They have allowed some family members to hunt. Talked about removal of downed trees - is this an issue? A: Downed trees, cord wood, hazard tree mitigation etc. are allowed to be removed. Bird has spoken with Truax about a forest management plan, which is allowed under the easement. Didn't see any property markers, but it was pretty wet. Got some good social from a post on Facebook with an egg that Murphy found.

Ridgeway Stables: First time Murphy had visited. We talked about horses and stables.

Bird: We need to monitor Waldron Falls. Cloitre and Fortier will monitor it. Can also do Willows at the same time.

Further down the line, we need to do Vermette on Parsons Lane. Had a timber harvest 5 years ago. There's also a property next-door with a cell tower and a house. Right next to Fitzpatrick. Cloitre and Epstein will monitor those properties sometime in the morning on July 1.

Bird will reach out to landowners next week.

Bird has received two letters from the USDA related to Tuttle/Tender Crop Farms and Browne properties. They want the 2018 and 2014 reports for Tuttle, but SELT responded. The USDA also reminded us that we have an obligation to monitor the Brown Property, and we should do it on November 3, 2019. Boudreau suggesting using their form.



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### **b. Outreach and Education**

Spoke again about Leslie Herd's proposed pollinator workshop in the summer of 2020.

Cloitre mentioned a UNH researcher Dr. Kathy Neal who is working on a pollinator project. Maybe rope her in? She is doing a workshop on 7/31 about her research - talk to Cloitre for an invitation.

Q: What are we doing for Apple Harvest Day?

A: The community trail people want to do something, we've scaled back. Boudreau wondered if we can be a part of the community trail/planning booth. There is plenty of time, and we have a booth if we want one, but it depends on when our next meeting is. We'll put it on the agenda.

Murphy mentioned that she is desperate for content - send in content for our FB page.

### **c. Community Trail**

Community Trail Cleanup Day – June 1st cleanup - Batchelder, Fortier, and Bird participated.

#### **7. New Business: None**

#### **8. Old Business**

##### **A. Discussion on Incorporating Climate Adaptation into OLC Parcel Evaluation Criteria**

We've already talked about changes to 2A and 2B. A few lingering items we still need to discuss.

What does "close proximity" mean? Murphy: perhaps a better way to do it would be not by distance, but by numbers of property lots between projects. There was consensus that we should add number of lots to the criteria. No more than 2 lots between proposed and existing project or half a mile. "Abuts conservation land" - change to that from "pending"

Item 9 - should we give an example of what limited access is?

Bird: 2 different ways to qualify: If you allow access to just a portion, or allow access to a school group or something along those lines. Landowner will allow conditional public access or on a portion of the property.

If we allow a landowner in the deed to set access, a subsequent landowner may allow more access.

Item 10: Add "public trail" to the Definition and Resources box.

Murphy made a motion to adopt the revised Incorporating Climate Adaptation into OLC Parcel Evaluation Criteria. Cloitre seconded. All approved.

#### **9. Enter Non-public Session**

At 6:48 PM, Cloitre 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. Epstein seconded. On roll call vote, all approved.

Returned to public session at 7:13 PM.

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

#### **10. Confirm Next Meeting**

Planning on August 15, but we might change. We'll do a doodle poll and maybe do August 8, although Bird may not be available on 8/15.

#### **11. Adjourn**

The chair declared the meeting adjourned at 7:15.

**Because of a technical malfunction with the recording equipment, the meeting was not recorded.**