



CITY OF DOVER

OPEN LANDS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: First Floor Conference Room, 288 Central Avenue
Meeting Date: **Thursday, March 12, 2020**
Meeting Time: **5:30 PM**

Members Present: Anna Boudreau (Chair); Kristen Murphy (Vice Chair); Bruce Batchelder; Ann Reid; Anne Kotlus; Nancy O'Connor; Nabia Fortier, Mary Beth Rudolph

Absent (Excused): Leslie Herd, Isaac Epstein (Secretary)

Un-Excused Absent:

Staff Present: Steve Bird

1. Roll Call Attendance

Boudreau called meeting to order at 5:36 p.m. Roll call was done and confirmed a quorum.

2. Citizens Forum

Boudreau informed the committee that Nick Kline has resigned from the OLC as his work schedule has made attending meetings very challenging. As a key member of our Easement Monitoring team we will certainly miss his input. O'Connor reported that Strafford Regional Planning Commission has a new GIS portal which is very useful for regional and local maps.

3. Approval of Minutes for January 16, 2020

One correction-Frazier was misspelled. Murphy motioned to approve the minutes of January 16, 2020. O'Connor seconded. All approved

4. Treasurer's Report

Bird reported that the Conservation Fund balance at end of February 2020 was \$1,264,244.11 and receivables are at \$397,282.54.

5. Public Projects: None

6. Report by Task Groups

a. Easement Monitoring

Nobody has monitored this month. Ticks are already out. Bird unveiled new GIS tool that can be loaded on a tablet to generate monitoring report in real time in the field. It can also take photographs and put them directly into report. Committee responded with marked enthusiasm. Details discussed. Bird to contact Deb Gourd at SELT to see what tool they use.

Committee discussed the need to begin monitoring soon and how to structure it. Boudreau and Batchelder will work on creating clusters of properties that can be monitored all at one time. The google drive document to track monitoring will be sent out again.

b. Outreach and Education

The committee discussed the upcoming Pollinator event scheduled for June 20th. Murphy, Herd, and O'Connor had worked together to come up with some language for the event logo. Options were discussed and the group decided upon "Preserving Our Future" tagline for the pollinator event and for more general use "Conserving Land, Engaging Community"

Murphy and O'Connor will work on a request to the Conservation Commission for "Up to \$1200" for the pollinator event for the speaker, marketing, printing etc.



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Murphy moved to approve the funding request to the Conservation Commission, Fortier seconded. All approved.

The proposal must be delivered to Bird by 4.6.20

Committee discussed the possibility of a vernal pool walk. April 4th or April 11th were suggested as possible dates.

Discussion of baseline documentation and how to best approach? All at once? Start with the newest properties and work towards oldest? Do we need to go out to bid? It is expensive. Boudreau and Bird will look at list and decide how to proceed.

c. Community Trail

No report

7. New Business:

There is a new forest management sub-committee for city owned properties. There has been a Forest Management Plan (FMP) done for several properties around Tolend Road landfill area, totally 252 acres. Now there needs to be a decision made on how to move forward. The hope was that a timber harvest from the property would generate revenue which could help the City to pay for more plans and plant downtown trees, but that may not be possible right away. Discussion ensued about what the goals of this are, if there would be habitat protection objective etc. Bird will circulate the FMP for the OLC members' review.

The annual Saving Special Places conference has been cancelled due to Covid19 concerns and the goal to limit large gatherings.

NH DES is having a grant writing workshop on April 8th

8. Old Business: None

9. Enter non-Public Session

At 6:50, Murphy made a motion to enter non-public session per RSA 91-A3, II(D) to report on the status of individual land protection efforts and transactions. Rudolph seconded. All members approved on a roll call vote.

We reentered public session at 7:20. Kotlus made a motion to seal the minutes per RSA 91:A(3) because its divulgence would render the proposed action ineffective. Rudolph seconded. All approved.

10. Confirm Next Meeting

Next meeting: Thursday, May 21, 2020, 5:30 p.m.

11. Adjourn

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.