

DOVER OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES: TUESDAY FEBRUARY 7TH, 2023
VIA ZOOM 7:30 P.M.

Attendees: Amey Moot (Chair), Henry Faulkner, Boynton Glidden, Connie Sullivan, Greg Kahoun, Val Lin, Carol Lisbon (Planning Board), Christy Violin (Conservation Commission), Justine Kent-Uritam, Mark Adamczyk, John Jeffries (Liaison, Board of Selectmen)

Absent: Tara Nolan, Jerry Arnold (Liaison, Long Range Planning)

I. Minutes

Approval of January minutes deferred to the March meeting.

II. Updates from Relevant Boards:

- OSC Public for 2023 will be focused on Hale to increase knowledge & visibility of its importance withing the town.
 - In addition, Paul McManus of EcoTec has again agreed to lead a vernal pool walk and Boynton will graciously host it on his spectacular (& protected) vernal pools.
 - Amey will start posting the registrations for the Vernal Pool walk and the 2nd Saturday Strolls on Eventbrite (for the ‘collection’ of all the walks: <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/saturday-strolls-in-dover-217389>).
 - Amey will send a doodle poll to OSC members to sign up for leading walks.
- Greg encouraged everyone to walk the new Perched Rock trail on the DLCT land behind Spring Meadows (46R Springdale Ave). The brooks are running and there is an ice waterfall (for now). He and Jerry are also investigating the lack of flow in a stream near Jerry’s house, given the flow and fullness of other streams and ponds in Wylde Woods.
- The Trustees programs are very popular – most of the dinners and (adult) cooking classes are sold out. The Saturday fire pits are a great (safe) way to see friends.
- DLCT – no current projects.
- Upper Charles (UCCLT) can offer the Dover Greenway and town help when it is ready to reengage on the rail trail. It has board members who have been involved in both the Medfield & Needham’s rail trail conversions.
- Mass Audubon – mostly online classes with vacation & summer camp sign-up underway. Next event is the Sky Dance of the Woodcock (see below).
- Elm Bank is having guided winter garden tours (see below).
- Hale continues to hold information sessions - bi-weekly Wednesday coffees as well as private events like at Sage Farm recently. D.A. Hayden & Rob Warren of the Trustees on the outreach & communications plan. Amey & John are working on spinning up the Hale Partnership Task Force.
- Planning Board has a few undertakings moving forward.
 - The Tree Preservation sub-committee and the Conway School held a very successful public forum in the Community Room at the Library on Saturday 2/4 with 32 participants despite the record cold day. They anticipate holding another one in early March.
 - Planning is concentrating on the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) and revised Flood Plain bylaws for this May 2023 Town Meeting. The Flood Plain revisions are required for residents to get flood insurance.
 - Town Village Center bylaw has been pushed to Fall Special Town Meeting or the 2024 Town Meeting.
- Conservation Commission – Christy reported that the land management working group walked Wylde Woods with Jerry & Greg on 1/7. It was agreed that Jerry & Greg would repair the ‘scout’ bog bridge to make it safe for the moment and that it would be at the top of the list for replacement in the spring. Several other wet sections were observed and discussed. These will be looked at later in the spring for bog bridges or possible rerouting of a ‘people’ trail, leaving/improving the current

trail for riding. Maintenance of trails and bog bridges are allowed without filing an RDA. Replacement or new bog bridges or trails in wetlands or buffers will require the Con Com to file an RDA to itself (as it did on the Dedham Street property on the Charles). because it has some well-known trail needs; they are also looking at signage, cameras etc.

- Park and Recreation - no update.
- Board of Selectmen – currently handicapped by significant understaffing at the Town House (7 job openings out of 15 employees).
 - Justine would like to have Dover represented on the MA Drought Management Task Force. Our presence has gotten MWRA towns talking about irrigation regulation for the first time.
 - The MBTA contract has language inconsistent with what the citizens authorized so BOS cannot enter into it.
 - Caryl Community Center is the sole topic for Thursday (2/9) BOS meeting. The report from the bid consultants.

III. Other

The following upcoming events were noted:

- Conserve Hale Coffees – Wednesdays, February 8th at 7:30 am at Hale <https://hale1918.org/cr>
- Fire Pit Saturdays at Powisset Farm – 2 sessions thru 3/11: noon - 2 pm or 3 - 5 pm
- Adult Cooking Classes at Powisset Farm – Thursdays at 6 - 8 pm
- Valentine Dinner – Powisset Farm – February 10th, 11th & 14th – all 3 sold out!!
- Guided Winter Garden Tours – Elm Bank – February 11th & 22nd at 10 – 11:15 am
- Hale Poetry Night – Wednesday, March 1st at 6:30 – 8 pm
- Watercolor with Asian Paper Collage – Elm Bank – Friday, March 3rd at 10:30 am – 2:30 pm
- Spring Ikebana Course – Elm Bank – 6 weeks, starting Tuesday, March 7th at 6 – 8 pm
- Sky Dance of the Woodcock – MAS Broadmoor, Natick – Saturday, March 11th at 5 - 6:30 pm

The next meeting is March 7th at 7:30 via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Amey Moot