

DOVER OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES: TUESDAY MARCH 1ST, 2022
VIA ZOOM 7:30 P.M.

Attendees: Amey Moot (Chair, OSC), Henry Faulkner, Greg Kahoun, Justine Kent-Uritam, Val Lin, Carol Lisbon (Planning Board), John Jeffries (Liaison, Board of Selectmen), Jerry Arnold (Liaison, Long Range Planning), Connie Sullivan

Guest: Courtney Starling (Dover Land Use Director)

Absent:, Tim Holiner (Conservation Commission), Mark Adamczyk, Tara Nolan, Boynton Glidden

I. Minutes

On a motion made and seconded the minutes of January 4, 2022 and February 1, 2022 were unanimously approved.

II. Review of Conservation Commission Articles for the Dover Town Meeting 2022

- 1) Expand wetland buffer zone to 150 feet due to climate change and remove the \$5000 cap for applicant consulting fees. Due to large projects the consulting fees often exceed the current cap and therefore gets paid by the Dover taxpayers. The Conservation Commission believe it's inappropriate for taxpayers to pay for private consulting fees of developers or applicants.
- 2) Requesting \$25,000 be added to the Dover Conservation Fund to be used as need for Conservation activities and efforts. This amount is requested on an annual basis.

III. Trail Easement Article #21 for the Dover Town Meeting 2022

Courtney Starling presented a slide show summarizing the location, impact, and use of 7 easements that have been granted to the Town of Dover, but never presented and voted on at a town meeting, nor official acceptance by the BOS. Courtney will reach out to all abutting property owners to remind them of the easement and notify them of article #21.

The following easements will be presented this year at the Town Meeting:

- Snow's Hill Lane – there are two easements, one is a open to the public, and the other is a neighborhood trail (also under separate easement to Norfolk Hunt Club for equestrian use)
- Bar-K Estates – provides access to conservation land along the Dover/Westwood line, June Playground, and access to Hartford St, Kraw Dr., and Stonegate Rd.
- Brook Run & Warwick – off Route 109, provides access to conservation land along Draper Rd, Shaffner Ln, and Tisdale Condos.
- Centre St – near Wylde Woods, supports access to Wylde Woods
- River Pines Estates – on Ben Arthur's Way, provides access to DLCT easement
- Taylor Estates – easement on Village Hill Rd
- Wilson's Way – well established and monumented easement for bridle path along Sage Farm and pedestrian trail that connects to Dedham Street (not as well established) to land recently given to the Conservation Commission that has access to Wilsondale St. There is a beaver issue that might be contributing to flooding of areas along the trail/pathway.
- There was discussion about a potential easement at Springdale Farms, but Courtney stated that the easement was eliminated in 1993 via a Town Meeting vote from a citizen petition.

There was discussion and a subsequent motion for the *Open Space Committee to co-sponsor this article with the Planning Board and it passed unanimously.*

IV. Open Spaces Walks

Paul McManus has offered to provide a vernal pool walk in either Wylde Woods or Boyton's land. The committee has suggested April 9th for this walk and Amey will check with Paul to determine

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if that date works. Greg offered to lead the September 17th walk in Wylde Woods. If others would like to lead a walk please reach out to Amey Moot.

V. Updates from Relevant Boards:

- The DLCT offer for \$800,000 for the 8.5 acres on the Dover Church property is underway with significant efforts to raise the funds before March 25th. Current pledges total over \$650,000. Anyone wishing to contribute toward this wonderful effort can send a check to DLCT at PO Box 562 or reach out to Kristin Dennison. The closing for the land is currently scheduled for April 11th.
- Greg has been working with DLCT to clear current horse and pedestrian trails around the Russo property, Springdale Field, Wylde Woods, and Snow's Hill. Funds are needed to restore bridges for some of the existing trails.
- There are new trails at Broadmoor for people to explore.
- Progress with Hale negotiations are moving forward. There has been work on the terms for the CR. Dover is prioritizing its interests and finalizing the requests for the negotiations. Justine asked if the Open Space Committee could review the CR before it is finalized and voted on at a Special Town Meeting. John Jeffries responded that is a reasonable request and would plan for that to happen.
- Water Committee: Greg mentions that Aquarian is planning to expand it's pumping of the Knollwood wells, which would likely have a negative impact the 46 Springdale Aquifer. Justine stated that Mass DEP needs to approve the expansion and permit any changes that Aquarian is proposing. John Jeffries stated that the BOS will be talking with the DEP about the additional water draw. There is a Town Meeting article limiting irrigation.
- Park & Rec: Val reported that the hydro raking at Channing Pond was completed in early winter and many residents enjoyed the ice skating there over the past two months. The tennis court lights are planned to begin this spring. The Park & Rec office will now be located in the Highway Department building due to the reconstruction of the Caryl building.

V. Other

Amey reminded the committee of the following events:

Warrant Open Hearing – Monday, March 14th at 7:30 pm – Great Hall, Town House • Hale Poetry Night - Wednesday, March 2nd 6:30 – 8 pm – Hale Trading Post – pre-register - free • Lichen Walk at Hale – Saturday, March 5th 1 – 4 pm – Hale Trading Post – pre-register (limited)-free • Spring Equinox Celebration, Powisset Farm – Saturday, March 19th – 12-1:30, 1:30-3, 3-4:30 • Fire Pit Saturdays, Powisset Farm – 12-2 pm or 3-5 pm – for up to 6 people each

The next meeting is **April 5th at 7:30 via Zoom.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Valerie Lin