

DOVER OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES: TUESDAY JANUARY 2, 2024
VIA ZOOM 7:30 P.M.

Attendees: Amey Moot (Chair), Tara Nolan, Henry Faulkner, John Jeffries (Liaison, Board of Selectmen), Greg Kahoun, Sarah Monaco (Conservation Commission), Rick Nagy, and Kathy Weld (Informal Liaison, Park and Recreation).

Absent: Mark Adamczyk, Boynton Glidden, Carol Lisbon (Planning Board), Justine Kent-Uritam, Jerry Arnold (Liaison, Long Range Planning), Connie Sullivan.

I. General Matters

On a motion made and seconded the minutes of the December meeting were approved unanimously.

II. Updates from Relevant Boards

- Open Space – The Scenic Resources and Unique Environments section of the OSRP was discussed. A key benefit of this section is that it helps inform residents of these resources and the importance of protecting them going forward. Concerns were raised regarding whether or not private homes should be included. Some additions were suggested. Amey asked each to send her their top 3-5 things that “make Dover Dover”.
- Last walk (in Hale) was very well attended. We may add more historically connected walks in the future.
- Park and Recreation – Nothing new to report.
- Broadmoor is doing an “Owl Prowl” walk on Friday, January 26th
- Elm Bank’s festival of trees is over.
- The Norfolk Hunt Club is increasing its community outreach. A tour of the kennels, etc. was suggested as the focus of a 2nd Saturday stroll (possible date March 9th). Details to be worked out with Rick and Sarah.
- Conservation Commission
 - The Land Management are going to operate as a regular committee, following the Open Meeting Laws. They will also work on mounting the signs that have been made by Tim Holiner once they get them from John Sullivan.
 - The Land Management group has introduced themselves via an article in the town newsletter. Their email was not included, however.
 - Someone has been trimming the trees around the rail trail on the segment from Hunt Drive to the Medfield trail end.
- Planning Board – No update.
- Selectmen – December has been a very busy and difficult month for a variety of reasons. Among other issues, a new police chief has been hired (from Westwood).

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- The Hale Conservation CR was discussed:
 - Eric Arnold will be leaving Hale in August '24, which will change the leadership situation at Hale (*e.g.*, the new director could ask for more money for the CR)
 - The warrant article is needed by Jan 13th, so we (the town) need to get the appropriate language for the article done. John Jefferies stated that it should be written assuming that there will not be any outside money coming, and the full amount (\$10m) will be paid for by taxpayers.
 - He stated that the current CR was considered acceptable to the Select Board. It is hoped that Westwood's impasse will not prevent Dover from coming to an agreement.
 - A special town meeting was considered the best mechanism for the town's residents to consider the issue, but John expressed concern that Hale may not give Dover extra time (past the usual Town Meeting) to get a CR voted upon.
 - The OSC has been asked to review the warrant article and provide feedback very quickly to help move the process along.

III. Other Matters

- Millborn Farm deadline has been extended to March 1st, but they are close.
- There was a review of the many upcoming events noted in the meeting agenda.
- Denise Garlick's "State of the State" event is coming up.

The meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Greg Kahoun