

Dover Open Space Committee Minutes

Tuesday, October 3rd, 2023 at 7:30 PM via Zoom

Attendees: Amey Moot (Chair), Tara Nolan, Boynton Glidden, Greg Kahoun, , Justine Kent-Uritam, Carol Lisbon (Planning Board), Rick Nagy (appointed, not sworn), Sarah Monaco (interim Conservation), Kathy Weld (P&R liaison)

Absent: Mark Adamczyk, Connie Sullivan, Henry Faulkner, Jerry Arnold (Liaison, Long Range Planning), John Jeffries (Liaison, Board of Selectmen)

I. Approval of the Minutes – no minutes ready.

II. Updates from Relevant Boards, if any:

A) Open Space Committee –

1) Public Walks – Amey – Nimrod Rock coming up (10/14). There will be family-oriented things to do afterwards at Farm Fun at Powisset Farm.

Future walks: Powisset Peak (11/11), Hale Cider & info (12/9)

Rick has volunteered to lead all these walks. Others encouraged to join as available.

2) The Trustees [of Reservations] – Amey –

Powisset Farm had no water most of the summer because the well hadn't been cleaned for ages and that caused an e.coli problem.

They are looking for a new stewardship director for Charles River Valley (Dave Francis is leaving)

They are looking to acquire Millborn Farm in Millis. They currently have a significant portion of the purchase price but need to also raise 'activation' investment and stewardship endowment with ~75 acres of fields and many buildings on the 180 acre property. Cocktail party info session on 10/19 @ the farm (93 Bullard St)

3) Dover Land Conservation Trust (DLCT) – Boynton

The Springdale Festival, run in cooperation with the Dover Mothers' Association, went well despite less than ideal weather. DLCT Annual meeting is 10/15

4) Upper Charles Conservation Land Trust (UCCLT) – Justine – Tara is now on the board as well. Nothing notable to report.

5) Mass Audubon (MAS) – Broadmoor – Mark – not present - Accessible Trails are implemented there. Accessible chair and roller now also available via Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation.

6) Elm Bank – MA Horticultural – No known news

7) CRWA – Champions of the Charles 10/5 includes info session on what they are up to. CWRA water monitors have reported that the section of the CR between Medfield and Newton is the cleanest section of the River, getting an A grade. The percentage of clean days down slightly over last year but still 92%, possibly due to the rain and high river levels. No e. coli detected. See www.crw.org or EPA site for more information.

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8) Hale – CR and Outreach & Education – Amey - Several info sessions have been presented (Dover Days and others). However, we are still waiting for Westwood to get their CR draft through BOS so Dover can be in synch with them, but it doesn't seem to be moving forward quickly. This means we still don't know the details of the terms of the CR at this point. At some point, it seems like we may need to move ahead and negotiate without Westwood for the Dover part of the CR or at least release the draft Dover CR without Westwood's also being made available

9) Norfolk Hunt Club (NHC) – Amey
Pegan Hill event coming up Oct 9th Big loop down lower part of Pegan lane, then onto Springdale, then to Twinfields farm. Tea at the top of the Hill at 11:30-12 pm
Likely as many as 20 hounds (AKA dogs) and ~20 riders. Millborn Farm Oct 17th

B) Conservation Commission –

ANRAD to define the wetlands on the potential Pulte Site near the High School has been submitted. Currently under peer review with Dover's Wetlands Consultant. Possibly to be completed by the next ConCom meeting.

Medfield BOS has denied Pulte's request for water and sewer. It needs to be seen if the state will force Medfield to supply water into Dover (something that doesn't seem likely).

Commission is working on a major violation of clearcutting of trees on Miller Hill Rd.

Land Management working group - Greg and Rick provided an update on the WG's first meeting (last Tuesday). Working Group discussed the WG's responsibilities and goals

C) Planning Board – Carol

A \$12,000 grant was received to develop a Natural Resource Protection Zoning bylaw which will be presented at the May 2024 Town Meeting.

An application has been submitted for a \$50,000 grant to conduct a Tree Count in Dover.

Working with DPW on stormwater bylaw update, including making use of natural resources as part of stormwater management.

Working on bylaw for small and medium solar arrays (33 Glen St installed a big system recently to serve their house on Farm St)

40B on Troutbrook is a scattered lot development (non-contiguous lots) but something similar was prevented in the past - new FEMA maps of wetlands haven't come out yet.

This might affect this too. Aquarion has a well nearby.

Tisdale Residences (Red Robin II) is a new 40B proposal requiring Dover input to MassHousing before they PEL (Preliminary Eligibility Letter).

Town is working on a better system for responding to 40B projects through the creation of a Housing Taskforce.

D) Parks and Recreation – Kathy Weld

Not a lot going on but are interested in the rail trail (including the town taking the lead on the project). Sarah Monaco reported that the Hunt Club has been using the Medfield rail trail and therefore may be more inclined to support the trail going forward.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, Nov 7th @ 7:30 using zoom

Submitted by: Greg Kahoun