

APPROVED

Town of Grantham Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes March 31, 2016

Thain Allan called the Open Space Committee meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. in the Town Hall located at 300 Route 10 South, Grantham, NH 03753.

Members Present:

Thain Allan, Chair
Allen Wilson, Vice Chair
Craig McArt, Secretary
Conrad Frey, Zoning Board of Adjustment Chair
Susan Buchanan, Grantham Conservation Commission

Member Not Attending: Charlie McCarthy, Planning Board Vice Chair

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the March 3 meeting was made by Mr. Allan and seconded by Mr. Wilson.

Unanimously Approved

Old Business

None

New Business

Chairman Allan said that his objective was to deliver the Open Space Protection Plan to the Select Board today. With that goal in mind, the committee proceeded to review and make final edits to the draft plan. Mr. Allan thanked the group for its indulgence in this effort. He then asked for an update on progress with the parcel inventory map that is to accompany the plan. Mr. McArt and Ms. Buchanan reviewed their correspondence with Amber Boland at Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (UVLSRPC) regarding this issue. In response to Mr. Allan's query, Mr. McArt said that Town Administrator Melissa White had indicated to him that the cost of preparing the map, which was to be a digitized version of his hand-colored one, would come out of Town Master Plan funds. Mr. Allan wondered that if necessary, it might be funded with the committee's allotment from the Conservation Commission, and whether this would need to be done within the present fiscal year. He said he would contact Michael McCrory of UVLSRPC regarding funding of the map.

Mr. Allan discussed a meeting he, Mr. McCarthy and Mr. McArt had with Executive Director Deborah Stanley and Land Protection Specialist/Stewardship Manager Andrew Deegan of Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust on March 23. One of the interesting ideas to come out of the meeting was the offer by Andy and Carrie Deegan to hold a dragonfly walk for the community sometime in August at Stocker Pond. Mr. Allan said he would contact the owner of the property, Maury Schwartz, for his reaction to the idea. Ms. Buchanan said she would contact Grantham Recreation Committee's Activities Director Jamielynn Garland to include her in the loop.

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Mr. McArt said that he had attended the Conservation Commission Gathering on March 29 with Ebba McArt and Shawn Phelps, Vice President and President of the Eastman Charitable Foundation, and David Wood of the Grantham Conservation Commission. The Upper Valley Land Trust hosted the event, attended by 30 individuals from the region. Two professionally produced 5-minute films were shown followed by a roundtable discussion. One film in particular would be appropriate for Open Space Committee community outreach.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Buchanan and seconded by Mr. Frey to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Unanimously Approved

The next Open Space Committee meeting will take place on June 2, 2016, at 8:30 a.m. in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room at the Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Craig McArt,
Secretary