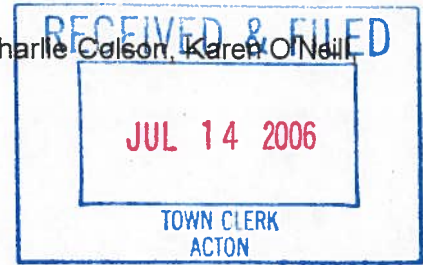


OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE MINUTES
April 28, 2006

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dick Hatfield, Andrew Magee, Jane Ceraso, Charlie Colson, Karen O'Neil,
Peter Ashton,

CONSERVATION ADMINISTRATOR: Tom Tidman

Andy Magee opened the meeting at 7:32 AM



General Updates:

1. Andy and Peter provided an update on the status of protecting the state lands around the Concord Prison. There was a recent (4/27) article in the Globe, which was misleading. The proposal and process has slowed down quite a bit but we still hope that these lands can be protected. ACT has offered to make a significant financial contribution for this effort if and when it is needed.
2. Andy provided an update on the BF Rail Trail which continues to move forward.
3. Karen presented some general information about past grants under the EOEA Urban Self Help program. Jane noted that the Butter Brook is identified by EOEA as "highly stressed" and may be an opportunity for grants

Parcel Updates

4. Canoe landing on Martin St. - M. Cocco (from Maynard) owns this land. ACTION: Tom will follow up with research.
5. Groenoer - Peter did the research on these 17 acres and noted that 15 acres are already in Ch. 61. There are no back taxes due. Dick and Tom have walked the land and note there are some nice vernal pools. ACTION: Peter will talk to Susan Mitchell Hardt to decide what follow-up is needed with landowner.
6. Choate: Parcels are being surveyed and laid out (3?) and the land is still in chapter 61. It's unique property and we should consider offering funds for a CR. However, one member pointed out that it should be noted that we should be very cautious about providing public funding for a private use, particularly in the early years of our expenditures.
7. Prioritizing our action plan: We discussed need to get an action plan for our prioritized list of parcels and try to move some of them forward at a faster rate. It was suggested that Belle Choate be invited to the meeting to discuss this. ACTION: Karen will call Belle to invite her t June 2.
8. CR's outstanding. Andy is checking with Town Manager on the status of various outstanding CR (Marsh)
9. CR's on town conservation land: We discussed the strategies going forward – do a few at a time or all at once. We also discussed the importance of having a local land trust hold the CR. ACTION: Peter will ask town counsel if a town meeting is required for this action. Charlie noted that the CR's must be written specifically for each parcel. There are 16 named parcels and 26 un-named parcels.. ACTION: Dick will create a spreadsheet with columns marked "Uses" "Structures" etc.
10. Next meeting Friday, June 2, Town Hall, 7:30 AM
11. Minutes from February and March meetings were approved. Meeting adjourned.