

**OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
Feb. 17, 2006**

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

CONSERVATION ADMINISTRATOR: Tom Tidman(absent)

Meeting started at 7:35 AM

1. Motion to **approve minutes** from our meeting in Jan. was made, seconded and approved by all.
2. Andy provided an **update on the CPC** work. The first round of voting and discussions on projects was begun. All of CPC seems in favor of supporting the OSC proposal to set aside 400K for open space. There also seems to be strong interest in supporting the BF Rail trail
3. **BF Rail trail work** has run into some insurance issues associated with hazardous waste. However, the goal remains to begin work on the trail in 2008. The Rail Trail "clean up day" will be March 25, 2006 (rain date April 2, 2006).
4. Andy also provided us with an **update on the Peet property**. The OSC should continue to monitor developments here. She does have a right of way established and she may build her house and studio further back on the property.
5. **Haartz zoning amendment** was presented to the Selectmen and Planning Board this week. It will be presented at Town Meeting and needs a 2/3rds vote to pass. The amendment changes the zoning on the parcel Haartz recently purchased from the state. The change they are requesting is that the land be zoned industrial and no longer residential. Then they will put all but 2 acres into a conservation restriction (adding it on to the current CR).

Peter moved that the OSC should support this article. Seconded, all voted in favor.

6. Note: The committee currently has 8 members. We are chartered now for only 7. **ACTION:** Andy will ask the Cons Comm chair to vote to expand our membership.
7. Andy asked for a **volunteer to examine the Franklin case about ch. 61 lands**. He noted that when a town is told – in the right to first refusal process – that the developer is bidding \$2 million, and then later information reveals that the developer in fact, got the property for less than that. Issue is that a town is limited in their ability to respond to ch. 61 opportunities when they do not know the real financial offer a developer is making. Pam Resor has some legislation to try and fix this. **ACTION:** Peter volunteered to research this.
8. **Dick presented (from the OSRP) a report on the parcels of conservation land in Acton**. We discussed the issues associated with putting CR on some or most of these. Karen suggested we aim to put all/most of them on a single CR. **ACTION:** Karen will draft a CR,- andCharlie will review it – for discussion at next meeting.

Next meeting – March 17, 2006