

Bow Open Spaces, Inc.

Meeting Minutes

December 4, 2012

**Board attendees:** Harry Hadaway, Ken Demain, Bob Lux, Bob Dawkins, Barbara Downie, Frank Boucher, Hilary Warner

**Members:** Beth Lux

**Guests:** Jim Nelson from Bow Conservation Commission

**Secretary's Report:**

Due to a problem printing the minutes of the 11/13/2012 meeting, we were unable to review the minutes at this meeting but will plan to review them at the January meeting.

**Treasurers Report:**

Frank Boucher presented the treasurer's report which was unanimously approved by a voice vote. He reported that he has filed all necessary reports with the IRS and the State of NH.

**Membership Committee:**

Bob Dawkins presented a membership list which showed all past and present members. There are 46 current members. He has been contacting past members who haven't renewed to invite them to do so. It was agreed that the membership fee for the remainder of the year will be halved.

**Stewardship Report:**

Ken Demain reported that he, along with Lisa Lulka, Eric Thumm, and Bob Lux, completed the stewardship walk and placed boundary markers in the Knox Road Town Forest. He will communicate with others to set a date to do the same in Nottingcook Forest.

**Public Relations:**

Martin Murray was unable to attend the meeting.

**Trail Report:**

Hilary Warner reported that she received a call from a Hampshire Hills resident who was concerned that the new trail being built in the Walker Forest was going to be too close to his

house. She assured him that we would respect his privacy. The Board requested that Hilary show them where the trail is going to go in the Walker Forest at the next meeting.

There was discussion about trees down on trails in the Knox Road (Boulder Trail) and Nottingcook Forests (Glacier Boulder Trail and one other) as well as along the pond near the Community Building.

### **Old business:**

Adopt-A-Trail: Bob Lux circulated a color coded map of trails in Nottingcook Forest. The intent is to put the map on the BOS website so that volunteers can see which trails are available for adopting and then contact Bob to sign up.

Progress toward meeting goals: we are very close to meeting #14, "finalize stewardship documentation and have proper catalog of completed work." There was discussion about how we might identify large tracts of land with conservation potential as well as residents in town who might be interested in conserving their land. Bob Dawkins agreed to contact Eric Anderson for ideas and Bob Lux will identify large parcels that are not currently protected. It was also agreed that BOS should do a presentation for Young at Heart.

### **New business:**

Website discussion: there was discussion about the importance of having a good, current website. Items that the group feels should be on it include trail maps, a town map showing properties with easements held by BOS, calendar of upcoming events, etc. It was mentioned that there may be other technology available that would aid communication and organization. Harry and Bob L agreed to talk with Martin about learning how to maintain the website so that it is a collaborative effort rather than solely Martin's responsibility. Barbara is going to find out more about her daughter's California stewardship duties and how she uses the internet to report back to the organization. Jim is going to send Bob Lux a link to the web technology that Village Shores uses to communicate.

Meeting frequency: we agreed to continue to meet monthly with the exception of July and August.

Winter newsletter: the deadline for the next quarterly BOS Constant Contact e-newsletter is January 10.

### **BOS Goals**

The approved BOS Goals list will be included in each month's meeting minutes for reference.

1. **Goal met – Frank Boucher is our new Treasurer.** Find a treasurer, Bob Dawkins will fill in temporarily.

2. Make a serious effort to find additional board members. **Hilary Warner elected board member on 12/13/2011 and named Director of Trails.**
3. Contact non participating members for assistance with stewardship monitoring
4. Improve relations with the selectmen. Meet with them to educate the board what we are doing for the town.
5. Public presentations to area clubs such as Rotary, Men's Club. Bow Pioneers, Young At Heart, etc. **Presentation give to Bow Rotary 03/16/12**
6. Work with the BCC to develop long range plan for protecting additional land
7. Assist the selectmen with monitoring the Hammond Preserve. **Agreement signed, first monitoring report due November 2, 2012**
8. Increase membership to 100 members by June 2013, including business memberships. **Membership increased from 16 to 45 as of June 2012.**
9. Add one new conservation easement per year for the next five years
10. Contact older residents that may be interested in protecting their properties
11. Attempt to have a BCC member become a BOS board member
12. Contact all BCC members and ask them to become members of BOS
13. Consider grant for part-time executive director
14. Finalize stewardship documentation and have proper catalog of completed work

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 10, 2013 at 7pm. The Old Town Hall has been reserved for this meeting.

The board voted to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Hilary Warner (in Mike Morris' absence)