

Bow Open Spaces, Inc.
Meeting Minutes
December 3, 2013

Board Attendees: Bob Lux, Bob Dawkins, Harry Hadaway, Ken Demain, Frank Boucher, Hilary Warner, Martin Murray, Eric Thum (Mike Morris absent).

Members: Michael & Joan Lax, Lisa Lulka, Beth Lux, Nancy Rheinhardt, Jeff Warner

Secretary's Report: After discussion and review, the November 5 minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: This mostly consisted of a current membership dues and contributions rundown by Bob Dawkins. \$1190.00 has been received as of 2 December 2013. Other ways to obtain money for BOS were mentioned. Lisa Lulka pointed out that her employer, Lincoln Financial, will donate funds for community hours worked and logged by employees. PSNH also does this for Martin Murray and Nancy Rheinhardt.

Membership: Bob Dawkins pointed out that we are about halfway back to where we were in the past year and again reiterated the need for current members to reach out in an attempt to bring in new members. The website membership application may need some updating. Martin will look into this. Martin provided a list of Constant Contact recipients - everyone who receives the newsletter, member or not. Ideas were exchanged as to how to optimize this information to obtain more members. A more personalized email news letter directed at nonmembers was mentioned. This will be addressed by Martin, Bob Lux and Bob Dawkins. An "opt out box" option was also brought up to facilitate removal of undesired email. .

Stewardship: Ken stated that **Knox Road TF**, lower end, as well as the Scheyd easement properties have been reviewed and are okay.

Ken and Bob Lux recently completed a review of **Old Johnson Road TF**, walking the entire perimeter, finding no encroachments. There was one place where the resident had stacked cord wood on the boundary. This was viewed as marginal.

Ken made a sign informing interested persons that BOS crew members are doing stewardship rounds, explaining presence of unfamiliar parked cars, without explanation otherwise.

Bob Lux noted that standard stewardship protocol in the future should include latitude and longitude for markers/corners found on boundaries.

Nancy mentioned that the Bourbeau heirs have indicated an interest to sell property along OJR but the price has been too high. Mary Upton is listed as a land owner along OJR. Nancy was not at all sure of her status.

Regarding the **Guimond** property, Ken noted that the current deed reflects all land and does not address subdivision changes that have occurred since it was written. A new deed is required. The involved attorney, John Laboe, will be approached regarding creating one with the existing subdivision information. The other option is paying Ron Klemarczyk to do a boundary survey.

A corner of the **Richardson** easements is in contention with various persons as to who owns common acreage. The town manager and attorney will need to solve this conundrum.

Nottingcook has a few “hot spots” that Ken and Bob L will review, namely the end of the Peasley lane subdivision and over by Merrill Crossing. Nancy pointed out that there are two direct access points into Nottingcook from Peasley with parking for several vehicles.

The **Hammond** property needs a stewardship walk this month per contract with the town.

Lisa Lulka reported that the scouts might be interested/available in January for a stewardship experience. **Walker TF** might provide a good stewardship walk. In the future, it seems best to get them involved with Hammond per BOS listed conditions with the town.

Having copies of all conservation easements was discussed. There are a few unaccounted for. Mike Morris may have the Bow Bog easement per Bob Dawkins. We have contacted Byran Westover at town hall regarding some.

Public Relations: Martin pointed out that the BOS Facebook page has quite a few likes. Its utility as a promotional vehicle was again noted. Current administrators are Martin and Lisa. Bob Lux noted an administrator interest. The possibility of signing up online with BOS via FB was again noted -- as well as facile payment potential with methods such as PayPal.

The winter news letter was again discussed. Bob L pointed out the previously decided upon January 10 deadline for submissions with the sending of the news letter NLT than January 18.

Trail Report: Hilary brought up the subject of trail naming, namely in Walker TF. She contacted Gary Nylen from the Heritage Commission regarding trail name ideas. She also pointed out the need for winter outing dates to be prominently displayed in the winter newsletter. Promoting the same thru the Face Book page as well as the recreation department was also brought up. The Bow library monthly email is another way to distribute this information as has been noted at a prior meeting.

Old business: Regarding easements, Bob Dawkins brought us up to date on the Boucher easement. He and Ken will walk the boundaries checking blazing with the forester December 5th, prior to negotiations being concluded. A gift was discussed for Mary Boucher. A sign or plaque in memory of her husband, possibly with a vantage bench somewhere on the property, seems most appropriate. Bob indicated he would ask the forester what might be appropriate content for the message. Stewardship funding pertaining to the Boucher easement was also discussed. It was not made clear whether this should be 5% or 10% of appraised value (for this or future easements).

Regarding the **Exel** easement, all agreed that there is a need for Exel to fulfill appropriate required terms and communicate with BOS which has not been the case thus far. This easement is believed to be a provision of NH Fish and Game condition for approval of permit to build & relates to protection of the Eastern Hognose snake.

Also under old business, Bob Lux will provide Bill Klubben the information we have learned re inadequate corner markers and blazing at **Stone Sled**.

Bob Lux mentioned putting data regarding forest work accomplished under an additional section on the BOS web "Adopt-a-Trail" page.

Bob also updated information on the Moultrie trail camera, available in the future to BOS members by signing it out. He will put it "on watch" periodically this month.

Ken said the signs for Nottingcook regarding dumping, vandalism etc. are in the process of actually being made by Berube right now.

New business: A discussion ensued regarding the new leaf blower, namely how readily it cleared leaves. Bob Dawkins and Michael Lax have done most of the trail clearing this past November with some help from Bob Lux (on the adopted Sheridan Trail). Leaf blowing reveals roots and rocks (that lead to tripping) as well as removing wet leaves that can lead to slips and falls.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 7 at 7PM in the Old Town Hall located at 91 Bow Center Road. The board voted to adjourn the meeting.

(submitted by Bob Lux)

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