

Bow Open Spaces, Inc.

Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2016

Board Attendees: Ken Demain, Hilary Warner, Harry Hadaway, Bob Lux, Martin Murray, Frank Boucher, Bob Dawkins, and Eric Thum

Members: Beth Lux, Sarah Dulcino

Guest: Beth McGuinn, Executive Director of Five Rivers Conservation Trust

**Secretary's Report:**

After discussion and review, with one minor correction, the minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Review of report and Knox Forest trail grant. The treasurer's report was unanimously approved by voice vote.

**Membership Report:**

Membership now between 40-50 members.

**Stewardship Report:**

- Discussion of Titus easement. Lawn is inside easement. Ken recommended talking to forester.
- Construction of road off Bow Bog Road with large wooden mats over wetlands.
- Selectmen's meeting on April 26.

**Public Relations Report:**

- Bow Open Spaces did not win "well done" award from the Capitol Area Wellness Coalition, but invited to awards breakfast on May 11. Frank said he will attend breakfast.
- Cost to have URL is \$28.
- Martin met with members of several commissions (Drinking Water, Conservation, and Recycling) at the Baker Free Library.
- Need content for spring/summer newsletter.

**Trail Report:**

- High Meadow development-donation of 9 acres to abut and add to Hammond property.
- Trail agreement: Hilary met with Selectman on April 26. They suggested striking language about the trails linking town lands as this would be restrictive. They also suggested collaborating with

Bow Pioneers to create language/check-off box that would make the agreement function for both non-motorized and snowmobile use.

- Met with Matt Caron of the Merrimack Conservation Commission. Merrimack has extensive conservation land and active trail development. They work closely with their Conservation Commission.
- Trail Grant: Jim Audet, Bow contractor, has started work on the two kiosks for the Knox Road Forest. Locations for the kiosks have been identified and flagged. Hilary has received plastic samples of the material used for trail signs from Scott at MultiCam East in Newmarket. This material is used on many golf courses and is UV resistant. Could paint edges but would add work. Selectmen endorsed the use of plastic due to durability. Trail work volunteers would rather spend time building trails and bridges than repainting signs. Hilary met with Russ Aubertin of Advantage Signs. He will create some designs and cost estimates for the Knox Road Town Forest parking area. Russ is a mountain biker and said he can discount the cost of the signs. Selectman Eric Anderson asked to review the design options by the Sign Committee.
- On Trail Care Day (April 23), Hilary and Eric removed metal markers and added yellow blazes. Jeff Warner, Doug Katz, Paul Rhodes, Andy Gould, and Steve Gallier started bridge work on AJ's Trail to keep hikers out of a wet area. Two stringers have been placed and two more need to be placed before decking can be installed. For safety, one span will be 48 inches wide (versus the usual 32 inches) due to its height.
- Nancy suggested reaching out to Jim Nelson of the Bow Conservation Commission. BOS should invite Sandy to the next meeting to collaborate between the two groups.

Presentation by Beth McGuinn, Executive Director of Five Rivers Conservation Trust. Trust has over 60 parcels. Currently working on Stone property, located on the Bow town line. Would like to increase communication with BOS on special projects. Recommends BOS join New Hampshire Land Trust Coalition.

**New business:**

Bow Master Plan Visioning Session will be held Wednesday, May 11 at the Bow High School cafeteria.

**Next BOS meeting:**

The next meeting is June 7, 2016 (7pm) at the Baker Free Library. The board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm.