

Bow Open Spaces, Inc.
Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2013

Board Attendees: Bob Lux, Frank Boucher, Harry Hadaway, Martin Murray, Ken Demain, Hilary Warner, Barbara Downie, Bob Dawkins

Members: Beth Lux, Lisa Lulka, Fred Oxaal

Secretary's Report: We reviewed the minutes of the 12/04/2012 meeting. We voted and accepted the minutes. Bob Lux read the minutes from the 11/13/2012 meeting because we did not review them at the 12/04/2012 meeting. We voted and accepted the minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Frank Boucher handed out a Statement of Assets, Liabilities & Fund Balance as of December 31, 2012. He also handed out a Statement of Income & Expenses for July 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012. We discussed that PSNH of NH gave \$500 in grant money on behalf of PSNH employees for their volunteer service hours. The report was voted on and accepted.

Membership Committee: Bob Dawkins reported that we have 3 new members. Currently we now have 49 members.

Stewardship Report: Ken Demain reported that he and Bob Lux hiked in Nottingcook Forest and put in boundary markers along the Woodbury Outlook corner. He also noted that there was private property near that corner of the Nottingcook that had been clearcut. Ken also noted that there was an area of the Nottingcook (the "Panhandle") with downed trees due to a microburst storm.

Public Relations: Martin Murray reported that he and Bob Lux met and worked on the Bow Open Spaces website. Martin and Bob added an online form that visitors can fill out to receive more information and/or volunteer.

Bob Lux learned how to edit the webpage and encourages other members to learn how to post updates on the webpage so that our website is current.

Photos are also great for the website. BOS has an online Flickr account with photos that has a link from our website. Any member who has photos can send them to Martin and he will add them to our Flickr account. Any member who is interested in helping out with the website can contact either Martin or Bob.

Martin will be publishing the next newsletter by the end of January. Please send Martin any material, including photos, in ready to be printed, already edited form. Martin also mentioned that he can incorporate new posts from the website into the newsletter.

Harry Hadaway opened a discussion about adding a link to the website that provides quality printable maps of the trails in Bow. He felt that this would help

get more people out hiking in the town forests, and thus increase the public awareness of Bow Open Spaces. We discussed the availability and quality of maps on other town websites, such as the Bow town website and the Conservation Commission. We talked about getting a better online digital copy of the Nottingcook Forest map.

Hilary Warner brought up the suggestion of printing up business cards for BOS. Ken Demain, Bob Lux and Bob Dawkins currently have business cards. Ken had one to show us. We did not set up a plan for having anyone ordering some, so this could be revisited in the future.

Martin said that he can create a Facebook page for Bow Open Spaces if there are other board members willing to join Facebook and help him. He said that the fastest growing members of Facebook are women 50+ years old. Five Rivers Conservation in Concord utilizes Facebook as a way to communicate with members. Facebook is a more dynamic way to communicate than a webpage because members can post and reply messages to each other and members receive instant notification of new messages.

Bob Dawkins will lead snowshoe hikes on January 26th at 6 PM in Nottingcook Forest from the South Bow trailhead and on February 23 at 4 PM in Wilmot State Park. Bob and Jeff had 21 people, including kids, attend the snowshoe hike on December 28th. Information about the snowshoe hikes is in the Bow Town Recreation flyer.

Trail Report: Hilary Warner handed out a copy of the new trail by Van Ger Rd. Jim Jenson and Hilary hiked the trail after it rained and determined what sections might be problem areas concerning drainage. They found the spur that connects to Hampshire Hills and Jim talked with George Anderson about developing the spur. Bob Dawkins brought up the issue of purchasing signs for the Van Ger trail to be of the same kind that we use for the Nottingcook Forest trails.

Bob Dawkins talked about the trail around Lewis Putney Pond that is on the conservation easement held by Five Rivers Conservation. It sounds like a beautiful area in Bow and BOS should maintain the trails. Hilary and Jeff said they would visit it.

Bob Lux informed us that somebody has been making private trail marking in the Nottingcook Forest. They have spray painted yellow blazes along the trail to the Woodbury Outlook. These unsightly blazes have appeared within the last year.

Old Business:

Adopt-a-Trail is up on the website for Nottingcook Forest. Bob Dawkins & Erik Thum have signed up. Bob Lux will be submitting the BOS Annual Report for the Town Report. Please send Bob any information you think would be helpful to include. Bob Lux read the names of landowners in Bow who own parcels of 50+ acres. The idea is to contact the landowners so that they know about Bow Open Spaces and develop a relationship with us.

New Business: Bob Lux shared with us that he had met Alex Slocum, a resident of Bow who has been buying parcels of land in the Merrill Crossing area of Bow that include: the 45 acre Jennings property, 45 acres of Elliott land, and the 2.5 acre Christmas tree farm property that had belonged to Doc Howard. Alex Slocum is friendly and approachable and Bob will ask him to join Bow Open Spaces.

Bob Dawkins got a map from the Planning Board regarding the plans for a State Liquor Warehouse on 3A and notification of a January 10th meeting for the site plan review and conditional use permit. The plan is for a 240,000 square foot warehouse with attached 4,000 square foot office. The property has wetlands on it. The Planning Board wants to give BOS an easement. Bob Dawkins suggested that we ask for money to maintain the easement.

Next Meeting: Tuesday Feb 5th 7 PM Old Town Hall

Please note the meeting place has returned to the Old Town Hall.

The board voted to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Lulka (in Mike Morris' absence)