

Bow Open Spaces, Inc.

Meeting Minutes

April 4, 2017

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

Absent: Bob Dawkins

Members: Beth Lux, Jeff Warner

Guests: Sandy Crystall, Ann D'Ambruoso

Secretary's Report:

After discussion and review, the minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report:

Frank distributed the treasurer's report and summarized the financial status of BOS. The treasurer's report was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Membership Report:

Bob Dawkins was absent.

Stewardship Report:

Three lots are for sale that abuts the Walker Forest, currently owned by Barbara Person. There is a 12 acre lot that the house sits on (and which has a very nice trail on it- thanks to the mountain bikers who asked for permission to locate it there). This lot abuts the north side of Branch Londonderry Turnpike. There are 2 lots (10 and 18 acres) on the south side of Branch Londonderry Turnpike- both of which abut the Walker Forest and one of which also abuts Andrew Richardson's property for which Bow Open Spaces holds a conservation easement. Both lots are pretty wet, but there is a large dry section and a nice trail that goes through them (mountain bikers got permission from Mrs. Person's son for this trail, too). Branch Londonderry Turnpike is a Class 6 road, so it is not likely to be improved. Ken will talk to Brian about the proposed sale. Several developers have expressed interest in the lots.

Public Relations Report:

Martin presented the new BOS website to the board. The website is not live yet. There is a "join" portal at the top of the home page so visitors can enter donations, personal information, and payments through PayPal. Bob Dawkins will get notification of donations once they are entered on the site. "New" section describes current news and events of BOS. Martin would like

a page describing the conservation easements. Martin requested more content to add on the new website from the group, such as trail maps, pictures and descriptions of properties. Martin will be the content manager, but wants others in the group to learn about operating the website as well. Hilary would like to see plot plans and a detailed description of each property. Hilary would also like to see forestry maps on both the Bow Conservation Commission and BOS websites.

Discussion turned to the new draft Nottingcook Town Forest map. Eric suggested that the colors of the trails be changed to reflect the different trail names.

Trail Report:

Hilary talked to the Hopkinton Trails Committee. Greenway Trail goes around Hopkinton and almost all of it is located on private property.

Hilary will attend the next Bow Pioneers Snowmobile Club meeting in April.

Sandy Crystall (Chair of Bow Conservation Commission) expressed interest in completing a Natural Resources Inventory in Bow. She mentioned that rare plants may be disturbed while cutting new trails or timber harvesting. The inventory will identify areas that may need to be left alone.

Bob discussed the adopt-a-trail project started several years.

New Business:

Harry Judd asked the BOS to write a thank you letter to Henry Tanner for his work in the Nottingcook Town Forest. He fixed signs, created the Great Hill plaque, and replaced the kiosk roof. Eric will ask Bob Dawkins to write the letter.

Grants are available from the Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The grants are available annually for the purpose of stream restoration and culvert assessments. Due date for submission is May 11.

Let Sandy Crystall know if BOS is interested in buying land for conservation.

Next BOS Meeting:

The next meeting is May 2 (7:00 p.m.) at the Baker Free Library. The board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.