

BOS OPEN SPACES

Final minutes, Baker Public Library

October 4, 2022

BOARD ATTENDEES: Harry Hadaway, Bob Dawkins, Eric Thum, Ken Demain, Bob Lux; Absent: Martin Murray, Marc Ferland, Frank Boucher; Member: Tom O'Donovan

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The September minutes were approved with minor changes.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Frank was absent.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Bob reports there are 15 paid current members and a few are new. There were 6 last year at the same time, ie, 9 ahead. Bob has sent dues notices out a few weeks ago and returns are slowly coming in.

As of now, regarding active members (paid since 10/1/21 thru 9/30/22) there are 86 members, down 10 from the year before (to 9/30/21).

Essentially, Bob reports, "membership is tracking OK so far".

STEWARDSHIP REPORT: Eric is still waiting for a new survey proposal estimate for the Patrick Richardson easement from the surveyor. It was again stressed the need to survey the whole property. There is a Conservation Committee meeting on Oct 17 that Eric plans to attend and present the estimate for this survey. On May 24, Bob & Eric will speak with the Young at Heart group at the old town hall. Presenting to the BOS mission would be a good choice, Bob points out.

There will be a Crescent Drive easement monitoring on the 20th or 21st. Eric will send an email to the stewardship team for volunteers.

Eric asks if we want another speaker on a general topic of interest at our BOS directors' meeting. The mechanics of conservation easements to interested landowners would be a pertinent subject. He will also ask Martin to help advertise a speaker for BOS on the website.

Sandy Crystall received an email from the property owner at 2 Saltmarsh Circle which abuts Knox Town Forest who asks about a "huge white pine" on town property, leaning against oak trees that will eventually fall on his fence. If on town property, it was noted that DPW should remove the tree. It is not the responsibility of BOS to maintain property. It is a Conservation Commission issue Bob points out. Eric will inform Sandy of this.

Bob has been in touch with Alex and Debra Slocum. They again wish to make a conservation easement to BOS and need an appraisal of the land value.

Tom says the Slocums have opened the door for BOS regarding land at the end of Ordway Lane that they own. They also own land at Purgatory Pond in Dunbarton. The BOS charter allows BOS to take Dunbarton property under easement. There is approximately 400 acres of Bow & Dunbarton land plus Dennis Ordway's land. BOS needs to work with these two landowners in particular and maybe even include Woodbury property with the Woodbury farm under conservation easement as a goal.

Bob reports a Bow high school senior, Luke Insana, who needs a senior community service project, with 35 hrs of supervised work, and has begun working with him. They are doing maintenance pulling rocks and cutting roots on Glacial Erratic Trail above the boulder. Bob is looking for BOS adult helpers with Luke's project.

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT: Martin was absent but submitted a written report:

Bow Open Spaces - PR Report, October 4, 2022

Holiday Cards - I have placed an order for 100 holiday cards, with envelopes. The card is a photo card of Rookery Pond and on the back a 'thank you for your support' message. The cost is \$109.99 and I expect the cards to be delivered ~ October 12.

At our November meeting I will distribute cards and ask Board members to take responsibility to address some of the cards.

Bob Dawkins, can you devise a system to distribute to each Board member about ten names/addresses at the November meeting?

Annual Report - I have begun to investigate how we might produce an Annual Report. I contacted 5 Rivers Conservation Trust. They have several paid staff members who, along with a couple of volunteer members who have graphic background, put together their report. That is an advantage we do not possess, to my knowledge. But, I will put out a call for volunteer help via our social media channels.

I also contacted Speedy Printing. They offer graphic design at a cost of \$60.00/hour. If we produce the content/photos and rough out a design, they can then design it. There is no estimate yet of how many hours that might take, or what the printing and 'total' cost would be. That will require more info from us on what final product we actually want. Does any Board member have another contact who has graphic design experience? (I

asked Ann D'A. She does not have the ability to produce the type of document we are interested in.)

PayPal - On October 3rd I initiated a transfer of \$631.68 from PayPal to the BOS MCSB account, and I provided to Bob Dawkins a listing of all PayPal transactions in August and September.

Newsletter - Please provide any content you have, short document, photos, etc., and share with me at your earliest convenience.

Thank you!
Martin Murray

TRAILS REPORT: Marc was absent. Harry says we are still waiting for the Walker signs to come in. The new Walker Town Forest trail has been named Warner Trail. Marc reported that he had cleaned up some trails. Bob says there is local use of the Crescent Trail which will be signed soon.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm. Next month's meeting is on November 7.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Lux
Secretary
Bow Open Spaces