

Town of Conway

Open Space Committee minutes

Tuesday, Dec. 11, 2018, Town Office (upstairs)

In attendance: Janet Chayes, Andy Levchuk, Michele Turre, Jack Farrell (note taker).

Meeting called to order at 7:45 p.m.

- 1 Approval of Nov. 6, 2018 minutes** -- passed unanimously with minor adjustments.
- 2 South River Meadow work with Conservation Commission** -- Janet prepared a Request for Determination of Applicability for work planned at the Meadow, including removal of a rock crusher and boulders, maintenance of mowed paths, snow dump zone relocation, erection and maintenance of bird houses, benches, interpretive signs, treatment of invasives as needed, etc. The committee would like to meet informally with the Conservation Commission in January. The committee unanimously approved the application for an RDA. Michele will create map to be submitted with the RDA.
- 3 Annual Report (7/1/17 – 6/30/18)** -- Andy will begin to compile material.
- 4 Goals for 2019** -- The committee plans to list its goals for the new year. One suggestion so far is to notify state wildlife officials of our belief that too few doe permits are issued in our area. Members will bring more ideas to the committee's next meeting.
- 5 Old Business/ Info Updates** --

Committee membership -- Janet contacted a resident to gauge her interest in joining the committee, and she is interested. However, she said would not be able to join until next fall, most likely.

Committee Communications via town website -- When he meets with Roy Cohen about placing committee notifications online, Jack will ask about also saving our documents (on Google Docs) on the town server.

Land Use -- There is a "Sustainable Land-Care Symposium" planned for Jan. 15, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. at the Smith College Conference Center.

Trails Linkages

Stiltgrass Project – How to Continue -- Committee discussed funding, perhaps from Community Preservation Fund.

Invasive plants/Town & Landowner Awareness & Responsibility -- Janet shared a knotweed treatment plan for the South River Gorge that can be submitted with a Notice of Intent for the remediation planned there.

Bigelow Lot -- The town administrator has encouraged the committee to work with Highway Department on a mowing schedule for the lot (as well as perhaps additional mowing at South River Meadow). Also, Jack has done some research on Margaret Barr Bigelow but is still seeking more information before filing a report.

6 New Business

7 Schedule next meeting -- The next Open Space Committee meeting is scheduled for Jan. 15, 2019, at 7:30 in the town office building.