

## Open Space Committee meeting minutes of Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Present: Rick Gardner, Laura Reynolds, Susan Downing, Deb Cary and Karen Rossow. Excused: Annie Charrette. Meeting began at 7:07 p.m.

Note: Due to a snowstorm we met virtually via GoTo (formerly GoTo Meeting). There were some technical challenges so we abbreviated the meeting.

**Minutes** of February meeting *unanimously approved*.

**VOTE:** To approve spending \$68 on road signs for Earth Month Clean-Up project and \$217 for signage at the Walcott trails. *Unanimously approved*.

We decided to postpone **parcel analysis** until our next meeting because it was difficult to do remotely. Rick has provided us with maps and data spreadsheet so we can all be well prepared for this next month.

Following the landowner meeting, Rick sent requests for feedback from the participants. Two, Sean Doyle and Lincoln Waterhouse, are interested in beginning the process of preserving their land with Chapter 61 as a result of attending our session. Rick will make one more attempt to obtain feedback from the other attendees.

Nature walk series this spring: Rick set up a place on our website for people interested in the series to register online. It was decided after some discussion that it would not be very valuable to begin with a survey asking what walks people would be interested in prior to simply registering. Once we close registration, Susan and Karen will look at what we have and, if we can't accommodate everyone's choices, decide the best way to keep the selection equitable and serving as many people as possible. Then we'll notify the registrants of which walks they are attending and let the leaders know who they are. Will also provide the leaders with the eMail lists so they can talk to their group. The registration will be in mid-April.

A brief overview of the parcel prioritization process was given by Rick. Outreach to the historical society: they responded that they cannot identify any parcels of significance for them. The agricultural commission didn't reply to Rick so he will contact them one more time, and perhaps schedule a time when he can be on their agenda.

All members will review the two documents on Parcels before the next meeting. The spreadsheet shows how Rick/Deb scored each 'over ten acre parcel' based on conservation attributes. The maps show where each parcel is located.

Rick reviewed Princeton Hikes for the last and next months.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 11, 2023.

Action items: Rick may follow up with some of the landowner meeting attendees for additional feedback. Rick will also contact the agricultural commission regarding parcels they may feel are important to preserve. All to review the parcel analysis documents before the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Rossow