

**SWANZEY OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE MINUTES  
DECEMBER 8, 2010**

Note: Minutes are not final until reviewed and approved by the Committee. Review and approval of minutes generally takes place at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Committee.

The regular meeting of the Swanze Open Space Committee was held on Wednesday, December 8, 2010 at the Swanze Town Hall. The meeting commenced at 5:00 p.m. Members present: Jeanne Thieme, Deb Crowder, Bev Bernard, Judy Hildebrandt, Theresa DiLuzio, Sharon Greatbatch and Betsy Braden. Town Planner Sara Carbonneau was also present.

OSC Banner: Crowder stated that she has not yet heard back from Evan Barlow regarding the banner. OSC members decided that Crowder could approve his work once she receives it and to make arrangements for the banner to be produced. (The text and general concept of the banner has already been approved by the OSC.)

Postcards: Thieme provided OSC members with the postcards that have announced conservation easements in the past. Crowder will do the artwork/design for the Tippin Rock Farm easement. Thieme will do the artwork/design for the Tolman easement.

The group also discussed prior problems with sending bulk mail to North Swanze residents. DiLuzio and Braden volunteered to investigate ways to remedy this situation.

Corn-o-meter: OSC members discussed how to "close-out" the sign. It was decided that should the Fields Pond Foundation grant be awarded, the remainder of the kernels would be painted and that a banner saying "Thank you!" and a big red bow would be put on the corn-o-meter. Committee members later found out in the meeting that Fields Pond awarded \$8,000.00 towards the project! Crowder and Greatbatch will take care of painting the kernels. Crowder will see if she can obtain a generic "Thank you" banner on the internet or see if a local resident (JV) would be interested in producing the same. Thieme will check Michaels for the red bow.

Carbonneau stated that she will see if something can be put on the reader-board sign in front of Town Hall noting the successful fundraising efforts and thanking donors and supporters.

TRF Project: This is scheduled to close in January 2011. Easement celebration has been set for Wednesday, April 20, 2011.

Tolman: The Monadnock Conservancy has accepted this project for funding. Anne McBride (from the MC) is preparing an estimate of transaction costs. It is hoped that the Town will agree to cover these costs. Thieme stated that the property has a wonderful view of Mt. Monadnock and spoke about a log flume that used to run from the top of the ledges, delivering the timber down to Westbrook Court. She also related a story about an unfortunate ox that also went down the flume.

Thieme stated that the MC wanted to ensure that another means of access to the property could be obtained off of Westbrook Court in the event that access off the private road/driveway is no longer an option. Mr. Tolman is fine with the MC having the right to build a trail through the west part of the property. Thieme stated that Lindsey Tolman was excited about creating a new trail on the property. Bernard suggested that the OSC may want to assist with the trail work.

Trail Maps: Thieme stated that the Monadnock Conservancy is willing to create a trail map for the TRF property.

DiLuzio will confirm with Dan Zeh that he is willing to create a trail map for the Honey Hill property. This will be done on a 8-1/2 x 11 half fold. It was suggested that the digital file be done in color for use on the website. However, it also needs to be done in such a way as to photocopy well in black/white. It was moved and seconded to approve the amount of \$100.00 for Zeh to create a Honey Hill Trail map. Motion carried.

Greatbatch suggested that boxes be installed on properties (for which trail maps have been generated) to hold maps on site. She will work on this project. Bernard suggested that in the future (after many trail maps have been created), the OSC may want to create a book/pamphlet of local trails for the Town's residents.

2011 Wish List - It was decided to defer discussion on the "wish list" to the January 2011 meeting. Thieme asked that members think about what projects they would like to take-on during the upcoming year.

Project Rating Sheet: Members discussed the project rating sheet. Carbonneau reminded the group that the forms are a way to document the reasons why funds should or should not be expended on a project.

DiLuzio asked why the form that was revised by Dan Zeh was not being utilized. Carbonneau stated that it was never officially adopted by

the OSC. Discussion regarding the rating forms will be placed on the February 2011 agenda.

TRF Rating Forms: Braden asked why the OSC was completing the rating forms at this time, versus at the beginning of the project. Carbonneau stated that it was an oversight. However, Carbonneau noted that many members had walked the property (some on numerous occasions) and there was a consensus of the OSC very early on that this property was worthy of protection and the investment of Town funds.

Bernard volunteered to summarize the completed TRF rating forms for inclusion in the file.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sara H. Carbonneau  
Town Planner