

SWANZEY OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE MINUTES
February 9, 2010

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

The February 9th meeting of the Swanzey Open Space Committee was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chair Dan Zeh. Members present: Dan Zeh, Katherine Feist, Jeanne Thieme, Deb Crowder, Theresa DiLuzio, Robin Snow, Judy Hildebrandt and Selectmen's Representative Bruce Tatro. Town Planner Sara Carbonneau was also present. Guests: Ryan Owens and Anne McBride from the Monadnock Conservancy.

1. Domina Easement: Owens updated the OSC on the status of the project, noting the award to the MC of LCHIP funds in the amount of \$88,680.00. In addition, Swanzey received \$4,400.00 for transaction costs for phase I (easement from Lois and Bob Domina) from Q2C. Assuming that \$65,000.00 can be procured from town funds (conservation land acquisition capital reserve account and Conservation Commission account), approximately \$20,000.00 to \$25,000.00 would need to be raised to complete the transaction. Owens stated that he would like to complete the transaction by late summer/early fall 2010. Owens also noted that the MC would be willing to serve as the repository of the funds - donations could be made directly to the MC, specifically targeted for this project. The donations would be tax deductible.

Committee members discussed ways to raise the additional funds. Targeted giving was discussed - Owens offered to assist the OSC in making the "ask." Feist volunteered to work with Owens in the endeavor. OSC members were tasked with developing a list of potential targeted "ask" donors - March 9th was suggested as a date for getting the names, addresses and telephone numbers of potential donors to Owens.

Other suggestions for fundraising - noting that it is important to involve as many people as possible:

- postcards describing the project (indicating where to send donations);
- a funding "thermometer" in front of town hall;
- fund raising at Gomarlo's (similar to fill the barn with hay campaign - could be "fill the field with corn" campaign);

- donations at Old Home Day;
- signs on the Domina property for those who buy produce and/or drive by;
- letter to Swanzey MC members;
- submission of a second application to Q2C;
- MC webpage and Pay Pal; and
- Town webpage.

It was suggested that a "teaser" announcement be made at the easement celebration letting people know about the Domina project and that is what we will be celebrating in 2011!

Artwork for the postcard mailing was discussed. Thoughts included original artwork (by Crowder?) or using historical photographs of the property (in the possession of the Dominas). A deadline of May 20th was suggested for mailing the postcards.

2. Homestead Avenue Project: The appraisal was received from John Newcombe. Carbonneau noted that the scope of the appraisal was more extensive than originally envisioned. MC will schedule to meet with the property owner to discuss the appraisal. Motion by Feist to pay \$475.00 to Newcombe for additional fees. Seconded by Thieme. Vote: All in favor.

3. Invoice from Howard Printing: Carbonneau presented the OSC with an invoice from Howard Printing in the amount of \$160.00 for 200 note cards. Motion by Feist to pay \$160.00 to Howard Printing. Seconded by Hildebrandt. Vote: All in favor.

4. Invitation to Easement Celebration: Carbonneau stated that she had received a quote from Silver Direct to print invitations/notecards to the easement celebration (these would be blank note cards with original artwork on the cover by Thieme). Silver Direct quoted \$112.50 for 250 pieces. Carbonneau noted that with the upcoming Domina fundraising campaign, there will be many opportunities to use the notecards from Howard, as well as those from Silver Direct. Crowder also suggested that the cards from Silver Direct could also be packaged and sold to raise funds at Old Home Day. Motion by to authorize the production of the notecards from Silver Direct and payment of the same. Seconded by Snow. Vote: All in favor.

5. Update on Buck's Health Status: Thieme updated the OSC on recent developments. It was noted that the celebration of Buck's life has (originally scheduled for March 20th) been placed on hold.

6. Deliberative Session 2010: Thieme noted that it is extremely important that OSC members attend the deliberative session (especially

since it advocated for the inclusion of substantial \$\$\$\$s to the Conservation Land Acquisition capital reserve account). Thieme stated that a bullet was dodged this year and that it is important that all committee members ready to defend the request.

7. April 20th Easement Celebration: Saturday, March 20th was set as the deadline for addressing/ mailing the invitations. A worker-bee session will be held at the Town Hall that day beginning at 9 a.m..

8. Minutes from January 12, 2010: Minutes should be amended to indicate that Deb Crowder was present. Feist had thought that other comments were made regarding the minutes, so it was decided to defer the approval of the Jan. 12, 2010 minutes to the March meeting.

9. Meeting with Representatives from Yale University: Carbonneau stated that she had received an e-mail from Yale on January 27, 2010, indicating that they were in the process of reviewing the materials that they had received and would be in touch.

Motion by Zeh to adjourn. Seconded by Feist. Vote: All in favor.
Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sara H. Carbonneau
Town Planner