

Town of Swanzey, New Hampshire  
**Open Space Committee (OSC)**  
Meeting Minutes – March 13, 2013

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

**Present at Meeting:** Chair Jeanne Thieme called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Present were Chairman Jeanne Thieme, Bob McKelvey, Beverly Bernard, Sharon Greatbatch, Selectmen's Representative Kenneth P. Colby Jr. and Alternate Mary Farnsworth, who was seated for Deb Crowder.

**Absent:** Deb Crowder, Judy Hildebrandt, Paula Shank, Theresa DiLuzio

**Minutes:** Minutes of February 23, 2013 were not considered.

### **ELECTIONS**

Chair Thieme stated there was a quorum for elections. Colby **moved** to nominate Bernard to be Secretary, seconded by McKelvey, all in favor. **Motion passed.** Colby **moved** to nominate Hildebrandt to be Treasurer, seconded by McKelvey, all in favor. **Motion passed.** Thieme **moved** to nominate Greatbatch for Vice Chair, Colby seconded, all in favor. **Motion passed.** Greatbatch **moved** to nominate Thieme for Chair, seconded by McKelvey, all in favor. **Motion passed.**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

The following Mission Statement was discussed by the committee:

“Your Swanzey Open Space Committee facilitates in the protection of Swanzey's rural character by permanently preserving important open space. We do this by promoting land conservation, bringing together landowners with land trusts and by providing the tools to assist in the acquisition of land or conservation easements.”

Bernard **moved** to accept the Mission Statement as stated above for year 2013, seconded by Greatbatch, all were in favor. **Motion passed.**

### **CALENDAR FOR 2013**

The committee discussed a variety of events planned for 2013 and decided on events that the committee will participate in for this year. The committee would like to see the calendar on the Town website. Greatbatch agreed to discuss with Assessing Coordinator Amy Bush who is working on updating the Town website, to see if a static calendar can be posted on the website. Greatbatch will also discuss with her the possibility of posting OSC postcards that have been created in the past and about placing the OSC Mission Statement on the website.

The committee will participate in the following events:

**Roadside cleanup for April/Earth Day, April 21** - Thieme will contact DiLuzio who is on the Conservation Commission to see what action the OSC can take to cooperate with the Conservation Commission.

**Old Home Days around July 20th** - plan for booth activity and ask Kathy Habiby to put the booth with the general group of booths on the east side of Route 32 instead of near the oxen paddock.

**Walk for Animals - spring 2013**

**MRHS Homecoming - in the fall**

**Full Moon hike - August**

**Fall/Speaker Hike** – Details TBD in the Fall (landowner knowledge of land and special qualities of land)

Colby left at 5:52 p.m.

#### **WISH LIST REVIEW**

Thieme reviewed the wish list that committee had created during the retreat meeting held in February. The following were confirmed for action by the committee:

**Update Mission Statement**

**Publicize Hikes** - Landowner speakers for hikes talking about special qualities of the land

**Oxen visits - meet & greet**

**Booklet of postcards** - good idea for booth - Thieme will look into this

**Mascot** – while a cartoon type mascot was discussed, the committee decided to table that idea for now and look into recreating a stuffed toy ox that looks like Bright that might be sold at Old Home Days and other OSC events.

#### **UPDATE OF OPEN SPACE PLAN**

Mary Farnsworth reviewed the options for updating the Master Plan. She reported that after discussion for Town Planner Sara Carbonneau the committee has a choice between adding the OSC plan to the Master Plan as a subsection of Resource Conservation or have a separate section of our own in the Master Plan. With its own section in the Master Plan it would be easier for a reader of the Master Plan to find the OSC plan in the index. Farnsworth will continue to work with Carbonneau.

#### **STORAGE AT TOWN HALL**

Thieme reported that Town Planner Carbonneau has asked the committee to consolidate its materials currently being stored in the attic at Town Hall. Space is limited and the OSC needs to take less space. Carbonneau has offered to assist the committee on inventory and relocation of the materials on a Wednesday afternoon when Town Hall is closed to the public. McKelvey offered to help re-organize our materials. It was suggested that the committee toss out some old buttons and other materials that are no longer useful, but that an archive be created with saved samples of some of the materials.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** to adjourn by McKelvey, seconded by Thieme, all in favor. Adjournment at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Beverly Bernard, Recording Secretary