

Town of Swanzezy, New Hampshire
Open Space Committee (OSC)
Meeting Minutes – April 10, 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., Theresa DiLuzio, Paula Shank, and Alternate Mary Farnsworth, who was seated for Deb Crowder.

Absent: Deb Crowder, Judy Hildebrandt

Judy Hildebrandt joined the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

Minutes: Minutes of February 23, 2013. Minutes of March 13. – Minutes were not considered.

UPDATE ON OPEN SPACE PLAN AS PART OF MASTER PLAN

- Farnsworth reported that she hadn't yet met with Town Planner Sara Carbonneau but was to do so soon and she wanted to make sure she had direction from the committee as to the content that needs to be updated. The committee discussed options for maintaining a separate booklet for the Open Space Plan and also being part of the Master Plan booklet. Thieme mentioned that a sub-committee will be formed after Farnsworth met with Carbonneau to decide how to proceed. DiLuzio pointed out that the Resource Conservation section of the Master Plan covers all the functions that the Open Space Committee is involved in. Although the Planning Board has the final approval on what is in the Master Plan, the committee agreed to be listed under Resource Conservation. Farnsworth will discuss the possibility of having a separate booklet as well as being part of the Master Plan with Carbonneau.

UPDATE ON WEST SWANZEY BUILDING/PARK SITE

- Colby talked about the demolition of the West Swanzezy building. He mentioned that things are progressing but demolition has not yet been contracted as he had hoped. He also noted that the West Swanzezy Athletic Association is planning a donation to the Town. Colby left at 5:37 p.m.

SWANZEY UNCOVERED NEWSLETTER

- Thieme asked Town Administrator O'Keefe to take a photo of the committee for the "Swanzezy Uncovered" newsletter. The photo was taken on the front steps of Town Hall with all members of the committee present. Thieme reported that an article has been submitted along with two photos.

TOWN WEBSITE

- Greatbatch provided an update on OSC Master Calendar, post cards, mission statement etc. to be posted on the Town of Swanzezy website. Greatbatch said she spoke with Assessing Coordinator Amy Bush who is updating the Town website. Bush can do a calendar which

includes OSC activities and events and asked for the committee to provide pictures and articles. However, she also reported that Bush wants only one person to be the funnel for such materials. Bernard volunteered to be the point person with Bush for posting on the web site starting with the mission statement. There was consensus to not publish how we approach our work but use it as an internal guideline. Dates will come from Thieme to Bernard to pass along to Bush. Greatbatch suggested that the committee help Bernard by having different members of the committee write up articles for the website to pass along to Bernard. It was agreed that the logo and mission statement would be the first items to appear on the website for the OSC. Chairs of different events will do a detailed write up and Bernard will wordsmith and pass along to Bush.

APRIL ROADSIDE CLEAN-UP SPONSORED BY THE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

- DiLuzio reported on the plans of the Conservation Commission for a roadside clean-up to be held Saturday April 20, 2013. She said Town Planner Carbonneau will open and close Town Hall from 9a.m to 11 a.m. for participants to pick up trash bags. DiLuzio will be there to distribute the bags. Carbonneau will also provide a map for participants to indicate which roads they will clean up. Level of participation for Open Space Committee is to pick up trash. Planning is minimal.

FUNDRAISING AND TOY OXEN

- Thieme reported that Douglas Toy could provide toy oxen for a minimum order of 2500 at \$5.00 each. The consensus was that the price was too high and that the OSC charge to the town was not fund raising. Bernard pointed out that the toys were a way to build awareness in children and their families of the work of the committee. A brief discussion was held about giving the toys away but again it was agreed that the price is too high given the OSC budget.

TRAIL BOXES AND BENCHES AND THEIR PLAQUES

- Thieme noted that the trail boxes need to be replenished with trail maps periodically.. Greatbatch volunteered to keep Tippin' Rock trail box supplied. Farnsworth volunteered to keep the Mt. Cresson trail box supplied. DiLuzio said she would notify the Conservation Commission that the OSC has volunteered to keep up the boxes, as a courtesy. Thieme volunteered to supply Carroll's Hill. McKelvey volunteered to supply Honey Hill. Farnsworth asked about a bench for Tippin' Rock Trail and Bernard noted that the Domina family didn't want a bench for their trail. Thieme informed the committee that Carroll's Hill needs a plaque for its bench and Honey Hill needs one as well. McKelvey volunteered to get a plaque to the bench at Honey Hill. Thieme will take care of getting the plaque up to Carroll's Hill.

WALK FOR ANIMALS UPDATE

- Thieme reported that approval is being sought for use of the airport access road for the event. Timeline: 9:00 a.m. registration for walkers, 10:30 a.m. parade walk begins and at noon a picnic lunch is planned. Victoria Barlow has confirmed that the oxen will be in attendance. Date is June 22, 2013, a Saturday. Setup is at 7:00 a.m. setup. When asked who might be able to attend, committee members were unsure of their schedules. Greatbatch asked that the committee table the discussion on this until next meeting in May when schedules would be more certain.

OLD HOME DAYS UPDATE

- Thieme reported that the booth location request has been sent to the Old Home Days Committee and we are waiting to hear back as to where the booth can be located this year. Barlow confirmed that the oxen will be present.

FULL MOON AUGUST HIKE

- A brief discussion was held about the planning for a Full Moon Hike in August. Various trails were considered, but most are too closely wooded for a safe trip in the dark, even with flashlights. Committee members were asked to think about possible high fields that might serve the purpose and report back at next meeting in May. The event is tentatively planned for August 21, 2013.

SPEAKERS AT TOWN HALL

- DiLuzio suggested having an event at Town Hall that would appeal to different people than the ones the committee is already able to reach with their town events. She said the committee is missing out on meeting people who don't come to some of the events that have been planned in the past. DiLuzio suggested that perhaps lectures on various local topics might be worth sponsoring. Diluzio suggested that the OSC would sponsor a speaker and perhaps pay them. She pointed to a newsletter from the New Hampshire Humanities Council that provides lectures on various topics, many of which might be of interest to Swanzey residents. The general consensus from the Committee was to look into this approach and for someone to contact the New Hampshire Humanities Council about what it would take to invite a speaker to come to Swanzey. Bernard made a **motion** for DiLuzio to pursue investigation of what it would take to invite a speaker to Swanzey, seconded by Greatbatch, all were in favor. **Motion passed.**

QUESTIONNAIRES

- Thieme collected questionnaires from the members that had been passed out at the February retreat.

BIKE RIDE

- McKelvey raised the idea of sponsoring a bike ride and it was suggested that it might be appropriate to have it on the Rail Trail. Greatbatch offered to find out when the trail will be officially open.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully Submitted,



Beverly Bernard, Recording Secretary