

**Swanzey Open Space Committee Minutes**  
**September 14, 2011**

(Note: Minutes are not final until reviewed and approved by the Committee. Minutes are generally reviewed at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Committee.

Meeting called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chair Jeanne Thieme. Members present: Jeanne Thieme, Deb Crowder, Theresa DiLuzio, Judy Hildebrandt, Katherine Feist, Sharon Greatbatch, Beverly Bernard and Paula Shank. Town Planner Sara Carbonneau was also present.

1. Town Administrator Beth Fox was present to discuss ways of accepting donations and fundraising by the Open Space Committee. OSC members stated that they would like to be able to accept donations on behalf of the committee when offered, as well as raise funds by selling notecards and other types of products. Barring other arrangements, Fox stated that donations need to be accepted by the Board of Selectmen and the funds would go into the Town's general account unless a special account is established by the Board of Selectmen. OSC members noted that the donations that have been offered seem to be with the intention that the funds go towards supporting the OSC's mission.

The group discussed the creation of an account mirroring the purpose of the Capital Reserve Open Land Acquisition Account as a way to accept donations and monies raised by the sale of notecards, etc. Fox stated that a formal request would need to be made to the Board of Selectmen to create this account, together with funds to start the account. OSC members will discuss further at their next meeting. Carbonneau will prepare a draft request to the Board of Selectmen for review at the October meeting.

2. NU-ECGP Application (PSNH grant) - Carbonneau stated that the application was submitted on 9/9/11. Per t/c with Ms. Baxa at NU on 9/14/11, Carbonneau confirmed that the application was received. Baxa stated that grant awards would be made on or before November 28th, noting that applicants would be notified of the grant awards whether or not they were the successful applicant.

3. Monadnock Conservancy grant application to the NH Charitable Foundation. Thieme advised the OSC that the MC had submitted a grant application to the NH Charitable Foundation seeking \$5,000.00. According to Thieme, the grant application states that the OSC and the Monadnock Regional School District are collaborators. Thieme read the purpose of the grant application. Members stated that while the purpose of the grant seems to support the OSC's goals, they were concerned that the application was submitted without prior

discussion with the OSC. Committee members felt that it was premature to discuss further at this time, not knowing details of the grant request or even if the grant request would be successful.

4. Walk for Animals - This event is scheduled from Sunday, September 25th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The parade commences at 1:30 p.m. Thieme will staff the OSC booth. If others are interested in assisting, they should contact Thieme. It was noted that Bright and/or Ike will be in attendance. As ambassadors of the Swanzezy OSC, the OSC will cover their transportation expenses. The OSC discussed the connection between the Humane Society's mission and the work of the OSC. The OSC discussed the connection between the Humane Society's mission and the work of the OSC. Members thought that using the town map that was used at Old Home Day and asking people to highlight their favorite wildlife area in town would be a good connection between the work of the Open Space Committee and the mission of the Humane Society.

5. Homecoming MRHS - October 1st. It was noted that Bright and/or Ike will be in attendance. Crowder suggested that the OSC contact some of the families that marched with the OSC at Old Home Day to see if they would be interested in marching during the Homecoming Parade. Crowder will confirm that the transportation costs for Bright and/or Ike will be covered by the school.

6. Annual OSC Hike - Scheduled for Saturday, October 15th. Location: Honey Hill. Bernard and DiLuzio will be the hike leaders. Bernard will provide a press release and further details. Event will be publicized on sign in front of Town Hall, on the Town's website, usual posting locations in Town and in the Keene Sentinel (and Monadnock Shopper, if possible). Crowder stated that she would contact the Borchers to see if it would be possible to park on their property.

7. Tolman Update - Thieme reported that she anticipates that the closing will occur soon. In addition, Aaron Tolman is working on clearing an area at the bottom of the field and the trail.

8. Mill K - Crowder stated that the Conservation Commission fully supports letting this property revert to scrub-shrub habitat. A management report from Steve Roberge is expected shortly, which will be forwarded to the Board of Selectmen for review and approval. The Conservation Commission is also recommending that the property be renamed to the Ash Swamp Brook Conservation Area.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sara H. Carbonneau  
Town Planner