

**OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE
Town of Deerfield, Massachusetts
February 23, 2009
MINUTES**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ben Clark, Judy Kundl, Dan LaRoche, Bob Underhill (Chair)

The Open Space Committee meeting of the Town of Deerfield was called to order, pursuant to posted notice, in the Town Office Building, 8b Conway Street, South Deerfield, Massachusetts, on February 23rd, 2009 at 7:05 pm.

Minutes from the January 26th 2009 meeting were approved unanimously.

B Underhill reports that there is no update on the \$1000 committee budget request.

L Rose reports via email that funding for the Gips/Andersen parcel has been secured and the preservation is progressing. On an unrelated topic, the town-wide GIS meeting has not been scheduled as of yet.

D LaRoche will be attending the upcoming Pictometry workshop in town, and will report back.

B Underhill reports from the CPC that the Hawkes parcel was denied CPA funds, due to it not being a priority for preservation as cited at earlier OSC meetings.

Talk moved to encouragement of the OSC to be proactive in town land preservation efforts. D LaRoche believes that there should be a pursuit of land in town to purchase and preserve. Discussion of possibly acquiring land adjacent to the Deerfield River, especially in the vicinity of Stillwater Bridge. Conversation followed as to whether the town would be amenable to this, due to potential liability. Potential for DCR involvement/ownership could exist as well. It was agreed that the Selectboard should be informally approached with this idea to gauge interest and see whether it is worth pursuing.

The town Agricultural Commission reports that there will be a Right-To-Farm Bylaw proposed at the upcoming Town Meeting, and they hope for it to pass without issue.

The next meeting will take place on March 23rd, 2009 at 7:00 pm in the Town Offices.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

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ATTEST: Ben Clark, Committee Clerk