

**Open Space Committee  
Town of Eastham  
Minutes  
January 21, 2015**

Members Present: Robert Gurney (Chair), Karen Baker, Robert Cook, Peter Wade

Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM

1. The minutes for the meeting of December 10, 2015 were approved by a unanimous vote with some minor corrections.
2. The committee discussed the Open Space Managed Lands Plan of 11-20-2003. The Conservation Commission is currently reviewing this plan to see if it is still current and has asked for our input. In the opinion of the Open Space Committee, the plan is a very well thought out document, is very much current, and needs very little, if any, updating. The committee feels that implementation of the plan could be improved, but that the plan documents are sound. Dick Hilmer, together with 3 or 4 Americorps (or other) volunteers, working a couple of days per month, could probably keep up with most of the recommendations in the plan.
3. There followed a discussion of the Terrapin Cove project and the application for CPA funding. Mr. Wade (CPA rep.) explained that the estimated total funds available from the Eastham Community Preservation Fund for Open Space & Passive Recreation projects for FY2016 through FY2020 are \$913,000 (assuming the guidelines in the Community Preservation Plan are followed). If \$538,000 were to be allocated for the Terrapin Cove project this year, it would leave only \$375,000 available for all Open Space & Passive Recreation projects (including pond remediation projects) for FYs 2017, 2018, 2019 & 2020. Eastham has committed to remain in the CPA program through 2020. After that, the town can remain in the program at the current funding level, continue in the program at a reduced level, or withdraw from the program completely. (Town Meeting vote is required to reduce level or withdraw). The proponents of the Terrapin Cove proposal are quite certain that they will be able to raise approximately \$200,000 for this project by the time of Town Meeting in May and thus reduce the amount requested from Community Preservation Funds to approx. \$338,000. The Open Space Committee voted unanimously to support the CPA request up to the full amount of \$538,000, in spite of the deleterious effect on funding for future projects.
4. Bob Gurney will contact Dick Hilmer and Sheila Vanderhoef re. the status of the Open Space and Recreation Plan.

5. Peter Wade will contact Neil Andres re. the status of the Sandy Meadow Parking CPA project.
6. Peter Wade will contact Ms. Vanderhoef re. the status of the bid documents for the Sandy Meadow Trails CPA project.
7. Next meeting: February 25, 2015
8. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Wade

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