

**Minutes for Open Space Committee Meeting, Thursday, Jan. 22, 2009  
7:30 - 9:00 p. m., Teachers Room, Essex Elementary School**

Present: Julie Scofield, Leslie Burns, Maria Burnham, Peter Kellerman, Helen Bethell

**MOTION:** Leslie moved, Maria seconded and it was voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the meeting of December 4, 2008.

- I. The next overlay district hearing by the Planning Board (PB) will be held on Wed., Feb. 11, 2009 in the Essex Elementary School cafetorium.
  - A. It is very important that a large group of people who are for the overlay districts attend the hearing and encourage the PB to continue to work on bringing an article to the town meeting.
  - B. Julie read aloud a letter from Charlie Storey to the PB on the proposed Scenic By-way Overlay District
    1. She will write a letter reiterating some of Charlie's points to those on our mailing list, the PB and anyone else interested in supporting the overlay districts.
    2. Maria & Leslie will write letters for designating overlay districts to the PB, and email anyone else they know who may also want the overlay.
- II. Helen Bethell of the Manchester-Essex Conservation Trust (MECT) spoke.
  - A. Helen has researched Laurel Lane.
    1. Located in the "Essex Woods" Overlay District
    2. It has never been accepted as a town road, precluding development on it.
  - B. There are 2 town-owned parcels in the Essex Woods overlay that are not conserved.
    1. These should eventually be designated as conservation lands by the town.
    2. The committee will look into working on this in the future.
  - C. Helen has also been doing research on Rocky Hill Road.
- III. The committee signed the invoices from Staples for the additional Open Space Plan copies.
- IV. Julie brought up the status of the Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds.
  - A. The CPA committee has set aside the funds until next year.
  - B. Stephan Gersh, who is on that committee, will be in touch with us in the fall.
- V. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p. m.
- VI. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, Feb. 25, at 7:30 p. m. in the Essex Elementary School, Teachers' Room.