

## **Otisfield Conservation Committee Minutes**

### **March 23, 2016**

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.
2. Members Present: Susan Feller, Kristin Roy, Bob Blake, and Maureen Mooney-Howard.  
Members absent: Lee Dassler,  
Welcome: Otis Brown, OCC Friend
3. Motion to accept the minutes from February 24, 2016, as amended, seconded and approved.
4. Old Business:
  1. Swampville Road update: Maureen walked the Swampville Road and explored the Town Farm foundation. She wondered if this could become an historical site. Should the Committee speak to the Otisfield Historical Society about making this happen? Susan wondered when the TIF expires and what else can Otisfield do with the TIF money.
  2. Western Foothills Land Trust update:
    - They finally did get their Land for Maine's Future (LMF) funds that the Governor kept from them for over a year. As soon as the funds clear, they will pay off the \$197,000 loan + interest. They have done light wood harvests in Watkins South and Oak Hill Lots and are going to harvest in Twin Bridges this summer. Then they will start thinking about trails in Twin Bridges. The stream crossing work will happen in July on Twin Bridges.
    - They are also working to purchase a 252 acre green lot and a 78 acre Fogg Parcel (not on map but links Watkins South and Oak Hill and has nice frontage and wetlands. Grants are in and some have been funded.
    - They have spoken to the owner of the blueberry fields south of Bolsters Mills and will meet with him soon about a possible farm easement.
  3. Little Pond: Susan still has concerns about the wading birds and water fowl in Little Pond. Water craft (kayak or canoe) can be a problem for the birds. She will have a conversation with Lee as the Land Trust has hosted two paddling days and she is concerned that these can cause a disturbance.
  4. Lake Monitoring update: Otis Brown would like to take the Lake Monitoring Program so that he can monitor Saturday Pond and Moose Pond.
  5. Vernal Pools update: Kristin wondered if we could do something on our website about Big Night. Susan felt that we could.
  6. Meeting schedule: Susan suggested that we meet every other month vs. every month. The Committee members agreed that this is a good idea at this time. We can change the schedule back to every month if needed.

Move to adjourn 8:00p.m.