

## Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2015

Meeting began at 7:00 p.m.

Members Attending: Deb Cary, Rick Gardner, Kelton Burbank

1. **Minutes** from March were discussed. Some of the language around the meeting with John Scannell were more detailed than we'd like to report in the meeting, so Deb will modify and re-circulate.
2. **TAP Update**
  - Rick discussed progress on Segment 1. We have two teams (Pat Hatch, the Bakers) doing some exploring in that area. The route that we have scouted already still looks most likely. There are seven landowners to get from LSF to Krashes and we'd like to start contacting them to seek permission.
    - Rick will send out inquiries to see who might know these landowners well enough to ask for permission.
  - There are two other teams of explorers that are active:
    - Justin Griffin has been doing some exploration in the TPS, Red Fox area and is intending to do more. He is also linking up with Kimbral Hall. Rick will continue to keep tabs on their work.
    - Steve Kessler, Ed Sweeney, and Bruce Weinstein have also been eager to get together, trying to arrange a meeting to talk about trails around the Boylston Park area.
  - Kelton is working to open the segments along the Midstate trail. Marking on the trail may be an issue in this section. Working to meet with Duane and Denise again. They also will control the LSF land.
  - When meeting with Landowners, we want to keep the discussion fairly light. We need to ask for (1) Access for non-motorized use, (2) permission to mark the trail (confidence markers as well as some signage), and (3) permission to publicize (not promote) use of the trail with maps. We should also make them aware of the MA Law that eliminates their liability.
3. **Fieldstone Farm**
  - Status
    - Private fund raising is at \$500,000 of the \$750,000 Goal.
    - All three properties are posted for sale
    - Other aspects of the project are going very well
  - Work to do
    - It would be useful for OSC to begin now with exploration of trail possibilities. The parking area for trails may be the open area a few hundred yards up from Don Peterson home, where Deb's trail goes down to the swamp.

- It would be useful to have a trail that connects from Boylston Park area. Tom Sullivan is talking to the Appel family about their property which is on the Fieldstone Farm side of the road and starts up near Boylston Park.
- Ed Sweeny mentioned that he has done some trail exploration in that area, and Rick will discuss that with him when they meet.

**4. Hall property**

- The Hall property that is for sale on Gregory Hill Rd includes the house, barn and ten acres in back. This is not a high interest area for conservation/protection.
- Dave Hall's sister owns the fields below the house, and that land is of interest. There is a plan to contact her when she is next in the area to see what her plans are.

**5. Next Meeting** OSC May 24, 7:00 PM, Annex (delayed due to town Meeting on May 10)