

Meeting Minutes

To: Members of Open Space Committee
From: Tom Dodd
Re: Minutes of meeting Wednesday, December 9, 2013

Members Attending:

Bill Taylor, Marcella Stasa, Mike Penko, Tom Dodd, Alan Miano

Meeting Timeline:

7:05PM

- Discussion about Thompson Property– Owner of 72 acres along Westboro Rd
 - o BT attended CPC Meeting. All undesignated funds are being used on the Upton Town Hall renovation. It is thought they would not be supportive of land acquisition at this time – perhaps smaller projects.
 - o CPC also appears to not have interest in affordable housing at this time.
 - o Metacomet Land Trust has about \$2,000 in Upton account
- Open Space Events
 - o Jan 12 – Monthly walk at Stefans – Parking Lot may need to be plowed for that event
 - o Robert Thorson Talk and Walk is scheduled for April at Peppercorn Hill. Received \$700 grant (full amount requested) from Cultural Council.
 - o Possible Bee-keeping presentation – maybe tied into mosquito spray effects?
 - o Bob Leverett presentation on Hemlock and Woolly Adelgid.
- Open Space Maps
 - o MP looking to update maps this January sometime
- Planning Board Meeting
 - o Green Communities Designation. BT and MS attended. Discussed Alternative Energy Zoning (Solar photovoltaic Energy for example). Establish designated area (~ 250kW/acre – sufficient power for ~250 homes). There were questions as to whether this is already By Right for commercial versus residential. State strongly prefers not cutting trees. Guidance for siting PV installations suggests having agreements with abutters that sun is not blocked.
- Other
 - o Scenic Bylaw – no news
 - o Motion to accept Meeting Minutes as amended of 10/9/13 – All in Favor
 - o Annual Report – BT will write and send around by email.
 - Motion to authorize Chair to write report and solicit input from committee members by email – All in Favor

7:55PM Meeting Adjourned








