



Open Space Planning Committee

Minutes - February 7, 2008

Meeting convened at the Lower Town Hall at 8:30 AM. Members present: Sterling Abram, Bill Barker, Betsey Harris, Henry James, Jack Lewis, Bruce Simpson. Absent: Anne Anable, Joe Cavanaugh, Ed Germain, Mike Walker.

Minutes of January 9th were accepted as presented.

Jack passed out a 19-page draft Open Space Plan which included all the work done by committee members since the last meeting. Draft descriptions of each priority area and the major history section have been received and will go into the Appendix section. Jack has done a lot of work as editor-in-chief.

The committee reviewed new Plan paragraph by paragraph and made corrections and comments. It was decided to have a short paragraph in the “Background – History” section, just indicating that there was along history of public and private land protection successes in Dublin. The rest of Henry’s interesting long discussion of conservation efforts up until 1945, with a quick list of events from 1950 – 2007, will go in an appendix.

Betsey told the committee that our plan is already working: she received a letter from a realtor in Wilton saying that a 103-acre parcel in Priority area #7 is for sale, and suggesting that we might like to buy it. Betsey replied to the agent that she would take it up at our meeting. She has contacted an abutter, Duffy Monahan, who sent us a copy of her LCHIP application for preservation of this property. This failed, but she is very interested in helping to protect it. Betsey will contact the realtor and Duffy before she leaves for vacation on 2/14.

We discussed future plans. It was decided to have an exhibit table at Town Meeting with a draft of the Plan available. Then a Public Meeting would be scheduled for mid-April, before school vacation.

Jack has agreed to continue to act as editor-in-chief. Betsey asks that the committee continue to review the draft plan, especially the sections which were not discussed at the meeting, and send their comments to Jack ASAP.

APPROVED

Betsey Harris
Secretary for this meeting Only.