

HOLLISTON AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION
MINUTES

Monday, September 22, 2014

Members Present: Justin Brown (associate), Janet Horne, PJ Kilkelly (associate), Donna Kramer, Tony Lulek and Paula Mark.

Members Absent: Natalie Kent (associate) and Helen MacArthur.

Open Space Committee: Lixy Carey, George Johnson, Rachel Kane, Ann Marie Pilch and John Vosburg.

The meeting was opened by the Open Space Committee at 7:32 PM.

The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the Serocki property. There are two parcels consisting of 32 acres. There has been an offer of \$550,000 made for the property to use it for industrial purposes. Inasmuch as this property was 61A, the town has 120 days to match the offer. This would be something that would have to be voted on at the October Town Meeting. In order to obtain CPC Funds for this property, an application must be made to them by October 1, 2014.

This property abutts conservation land located in Sherborn. It consists of woods and fields. There is presently a house and a barn located on the property. If it is used for open space there cannot be any buildings on the property. For agricultural purposes we would like to keep the barn. It was mentioned that we need to get estimates as to what the cost would be for the demolition of the house.

We would need to come up with what the possible uses would be of the property. There have been some cranberry bogs there in the past. We also need to check to see what uses would be allowed. It was also mentioned that we get in touch with Mass Audubon as well as the Farm Bureau to get their feedback on this project.

The Open Space Committee will put together the proposal to the CPC as well as having the article placed on the warrant for the purchase of this property. The Agricultural Commission needs to put together a presentation to be made at Town Meeting for the purchase of the property.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Horne, Clerk