

# Minutes of the Open Space Committee

## January 12, 2015

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**Members Present:** George Johnson, Ann Marie Pilch, Lixy Carey, James Keast, John Vosburg

**Members Absent:** Rachel Kane

**Guests:** Paul Saulnier (Holliston Reporter)

### General Topics:

Ann Marie made a motion to approve the regular session minutes of September 22, 2014 as amended. John seconded the motion which passed unanimously; James abstaining

Ann Marie made a motion to approve the regular session minutes of December 8, 2014 as amended. George seconded the motion which passed unanimously; John abstaining

Lixy prepared the Open Space FY14 actions for the Town of Holliston's Annual Report and submitted to Andrea Minihan for placement in the report.

Lixy announced that she will be attending the town's All Boards Meeting being held at the Senior Center on January 14, 2015 to represent the Open Space Committee.

The committee discussed posting the replacement position for Mike O'Brien in the Holliston Reporter. Ann Marie will provide Lixy a copy of a prior posting for reference.

### Serocki:

The town officially owns the property at this point in time. The remaining question is if the house, which was noted to be demolished in the town meeting funding approval, can remain. Lixy is researching/discussing the feasibility of keeping the house with the town administrator.

Ann Marie suggested that the house could be used by a caretaker of the farm or for 40B affordable housing. John indicated that he would research how the Town of Medway operates their caretaker program.

It was discussed that the Mass Farm Bureau does hold Conservation Restrictions (CR) for properties such as Serocki. Further discussion regarding the Upper Charles Conservation Land Trust holding the CR took place and it was noted they suggest a fee of \$250K. Paul Saulnier (who is a member of Upper Charles) mentioned that the fee does not seem correct and he will provide feedback to Lixy after he discussed with the Upper Charles committee. In the meantime Lixy will inform the Mass Farm Bureau that we will be making a decision on the CR holder shortly.

Ann Marie indicated that we need specific detail in the CR related to the clearing of now over grown pasture areas on the property.

Lixy visited the house and mentioned that the heat was on (to prevent freezing temperatures inside) and there was a ¼ tank of oil left. Lixy indicated that the water lines in the house need to be drained or the oil tank filled quickly to prevent damage to the house. Lixy will discuss with the town administrator.

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### **Warren Woods:**

It was discussed that the back parcel of the property need access for hiking, etc. from Meadow Brook Lane. James to inquire with home owners at 78 and 86 Meadow Brook lane to see if they are willing to allow public access on the side of their property.

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George Johnson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. James Keast seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.