

**Minutes of the Town of Holliston  
Open Space Committee  
Public Session  
April 28, 2014**

Members present: Ann Marie Pilch, George Johnson, Lixy Carey, Rachel Kane  
Absent members: James Keast, John Vosburg, Michael O'Brien

**Bullard Farm**

George Johnson informed the Committee that the state has awarded the town a LAND grant applied for by the Committee with regard to acquisition of the conservation easement on Bullard Farm. With this award of funds, the Open Space Committee will be able to move forward with the Bullard Farm conservation easement but will be on a tight time schedule with regard to finalizing the project. The Committee discussed fast-tracking the project. George Johnson reviewed the timeline for completion and approval of the conservation restriction; drafting and approval of a management plan for the property; closing the transaction; and application for reimbursement from the state. The Committee determined that all steps should be completed by June 15, with application to the state for reimbursement by June 30.

Ann Marie Pilch noted that the next Conservation Commission meeting for approval of the conservation restriction will be May 13.

George Johnson will focus on completion of the conservation restriction within the agreed upon time limits, while Rachel Kane agreed to draft a management plan by June 15. George Johnson agreed to forward Rachel Kane management plan materials and suggestions by George Bollenbacher. Lixy Carey also volunteered to provide backup support to Rachel Kane with regard to completion of the management plan.

**Northeastern University Property**

Ann Marie Pilch went to the Community Preservation Committee and obtained approval to extend the funding approval for the Northeastern University deal for one more year. She learned from the Planning Board that Northeastern's separate Summit Point parcel sale has yet to close due to some issues arising over whether the developer can install individual wells for each lot; accordingly, there has been no movement on the Town's deal to purchase property from Northeastern and an extension of time on the funding approval was necessary.

**Available Property**

Ann Marie Pilch was informed of 19 acres of land along the Sherborn line that will be offered for sale. This land was part of a larger parcel of land that the Open Space Committee considered for purchase in 2003. Ann Marie Pilch is unsure whether the land is Chapter 61 but provided the Committee with a 2009 appraisal summary that stated the land, including a house, easements,

and wetlands, was valued at \$520,000. Ann Marie Pilch will get more information as to whether acquisition of this property is something the Open Space Committee would be interested in.

### **Open Space Funds**

Lixy Carey will verify fund details that she received from the Town accountant, as well as confirm that the monies for the Bullard Farm and Northeastern University projects have been removed.

Lixy Carey moved to adjourn the public session, and George Johnson seconded the motion. All in favor of the motion: Ann Marie Pilch, George Johnson, Lixy Carey, and Rachel Kane.