

Meeting of the Douglas Open Space Committee Feb. 18, 2025, 3 PM at the Douglas Municipal Center.

Members Present: Sue Perkins, Kathy Richards, Becky Kalagher, and Dick Skinner.

S. Perkins opened the meeting at 3:07 PM and stated that the meeting was being videoed. Introductions made.

Review minutes from Jan. 14, 2025, meeting: Motion by B. Kalagher to accept minutes as corrected, seconded by K. Richards. All in favor.

Dick Skinner's application to join committee: Dick can join as an alternate. Motion by B. Kalagher to recommend Dick Skinner as the alternate that is replacing Fred Fontaine for the Douglas Open Space Committee. K. Richards seconded. All in favor.

Leon Moczynski Conservation Area: B. Kalagher showed directional signs purchased to add to this area. Submit the invoice (\$202.50) to Jen for reimbursement out of the Open Space Committee budget. Need a couple of posts installed for the signs. Follow up with the Highway Dept. to see if they can install the posts by S. Perkins. Mention if they can keep the parking area brushed back along with the side of the road from parking lot to trail head. Remaining in budget for this fiscal year \$97.50 ending June 30, 2025.

Keegan Property: Two estimates in so far. \$15,000 and \$15,800. Still waiting for one more. Contacted Margaret Bacon to do a site plan for the 2-car parking lot that we were informed we would need. What is the deadline for submitting items for the annual town meeting? S. Perkins will check on it. Questions on the cost of the big sign for the name of the property, possible project for Blackstone Valley Tech. S. Perkins still following up on property owner permission.

Upcoming Grants: Deadline is March 5th for AARP. Targeting seniors, 55 and older. Look at it and see if it is applicable to the Keegan Property.

Open Space & Recreation Plan: Share with the Highway Department, Water Department, and Board of Health to let them know what the recommendations are that their departments cover in the Plan. S. Perkins will contact them with the list.

Castle Caves: Do we want to pursue getting this back on the town warrant to put into Chapter 97?

Gilboa St. Lot: Tabled

Conservation Land: Are there any regulations pertaining to use on these properties? S. Perkins to follow up on that.

Old/New Business:

OLD: None.

NEW: D. Skinner presented ideas on kiosks. Placement at town hall with all properties/information posted. Discussed where information would be best. Website, brochures, or both. Discussion on placement areas.

D. Skinner presented that we have more people in this group to adopt certain properties and work towards accomplishing the goals/plans for that property. Friends of or the trails committee. Discussion on how that could work.

D. Skinner presented the idea of getting a golf cart to take seniors that cannot walk for a ride in the woods. Nice idea, we just do not have any conservation areas that could accommodate a golf cart. Need to think about insurance/liability/housing issues.

Next meeting March 11, 2025 at 2pm

Adjournment

S. Perkins moved to adjourn at 4:03 PM. B. Kalagher seconded. All in favor.