

Stow Open Space Committee

September 20, 2023

7:00pm

Stow Town Building

Present: Bob Wilber, Bill Maxfield, Vin Antil, Kathy Sferra, Meg Costello

Meeting start: 7:19pm

Review of minutes: Meg moved to accept minutes as amended, Kathy seconded. Minutes accepted unanimously.

Conservation Dept update:

Lots of trees down; extensive cleanup on town land, trails. Relocation of blue trail at Heath Hen; Flag Hill with possible relocation of green trail. At Marble Hill, Eagle Scout is building bridge for entrance to both yellow and white trails by Pompo. Also located there will be new senior carport for senior bus and parking for Marble Hill trail users with sign.

Stow Acres: still working on master plan. Short loop trail on North Course; new trail for community opening ceremony on October 29. Consulting team balancing conservation with nature based recreation; will do public survey and have public forum in October/November for proposed uses.

Perkins land for sale: Vin says he pitched to land conservation team at Trustees with no interest; Kathy talked with realtor with questions about property; industrially zoned with bad soils and steep slopes, follows along river with restrictions. In Chapter at present. Plan to look at CR option for town of Stow. Kathy and Bob to discuss together and possibly talk with owner.

Gleasondale Mill: Chris Franklin owns number of mill buildings; application with Planning Board to allow spaces for gun dealers and artists; gun dealers cannot use residential address for business so their plan is to maintain functional business with address of carrels in mill.

Discussion of Athens Lane/Corzine Area Parking and Trails: Plan for Hale Corzine/Athens Lane/Arbor Glen/Hemingway property all knit together for parking and trails. There will be small parking area for visitors for trails at Athens Lane (Cottages at Wandering Pond). Question of location of parking for coordination of all locations and trails.

Next meeting: committee will invite Stow Conservation Trust to discuss connections with Hale Corzine and interest in owning and connecting with different parcels; Wilber spoke of maintaining integrity of Hale Corzine with SCT which owns and manages; problem with opening up new entrance and effect of usage upon Hale Corzine. Date for next meeting: Monday October 30. Kathy will confirm this date with Laurie Burnett to maintain quorum (Meg will be absent).

Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm. Meg moved to adjourn, Kathy seconded.

Approved by vote of the Open Space Committee on 10-30-23