

INITIALS _____

Open Space Committee Action Item Minutes

Nov. 14, 2013

Attendees: Rob Verge, Marion Benson, Rich Brockleman, Brandon Kibbee, Sharon Jordan & Paula Bertram (Board of Selectmen)

The principal agenda topic was the potential acquisition of the Lane Property on Holman St. and the structure/responsibilities of the group established to advise us on the acquisition (the Acquisition Advisory Team), based on the presentation we made at the Board of Selectmen on Oct. 1, 2013.

Jan Carrier moved that Brandon Kibbee represent the Open Space Committee on the Acquisition Advisory Team, seconded by Rich Brockleman; unanimously approved. Brandon will take lead responsibility for discussions with Chris Rodstrom of Land Vest.

The team will have 4 members: Paula Bertram from the BOS (alternate is Tom Alonzo), Toby Bakaysa from the Planning Board, and JJ Cote from the Conservation Commission, as well as Brandon. The team is a temporary advisory group whose purpose is limited to the potential acquisition of the Lane property on Holman St., representing the town's interests to the sellers.

The team will determine what the town's viable options are for pricing and configuration of the property, present recommendations to the Open Space Committee and report back to their own boards. The Open Space Committee will review and approve the team's recommendations, and present the proposals for approval to the Board of Selectmen. The team may negotiate on the town's behalf with the sellers to develop a proposal that would be in the town's best interest, muster support town support for the acquisition, prepare grant applications to be submitted by the Open Space Committee to the state or other funding sources, and engage interested land trusts in the discussions regarding funding and/or conservation restrictions.

The Open Space Committee also discussed the list of priority criteria for determining conservation values of available and potentially available properties, which we created and approved in August and September 2013. We recommend that the Board of Selectmen request that other town boards develop similar acquisition criteria relative to their scope of responsibilities, and that a process be established for acquisition procedures.

The Open Space Committee unanimously approved the minutes of the Sept. 10, 2013 meeting.