

Hubbardston Open Space Meeting

June 9, 2008

Called to order 7:00pm. All in favor.

In attendance were Jassy Bratko, Dottie Athens, Leslie Greiner, Joe Cataldo, Catherine Galbreath, and Charlie Clark.

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm.

Leslie read May meeting minutes. Approved by Dottie, seconded by Catherine. All approved.

Selectman Paul Hale and Fire Chief Seth Knipe attended the meeting to discuss the placement of a communications tower that would be necessary for fire and police emergency services to reach all areas of town. The original site at which work had already begun was at the top of Mt Jefferson Road near the Templeton town line. The work was discontinued because of town resident's concern that the tower would interfere with his health issues. Mr. Hale and Mr. Knipe presented their wish to relocate the tower on Mt Jefferson Road on the edge of the Town Conservation Land. They requested the opinions of the Open Space Committee. Pros and cons were discussed between the committee members and Mr. Hale and Mr. Knipe. The Open Space Committee recognizes and supports the necessity for a communication tower. Catherine made a motion to support the installation of the tower at the proposed site and Charlie seconded the motion. Joe also supported the motion, but Jassy, Leslie and Dottie voted against constructing the tower at the Town Conservation site, suggesting other sites be considered. The committee then made a motion to request that the Selectboard hold a public hearing as required by Massachusetts General Laws Part I, Title VII, Chapter 40, Section 15C for designated scenic roads, of which Mt Jefferson Road is one. There was no motion to object to the tower based on its necessity to the safety of the town. The committee feels that the townspeople, as owners of the conservation land, should have the opportunity to have their voices heard.

In other business, the committee is waiting to hear from town administrator the final cost of the closing of the Malone Road project, which was closed on June 6. So far, the committee has raised \$4100.00 for closing costs, and will continue to request donations and grants that may cover the final cost.

The committee will speak to the Conservation Committee regarding management of the property. Approval is needed for the fire department to do a training burn of the house on the property, as well as mowing a path to the trail, mark a trail to the cliff and cleaning up the rubbish and outbuildings.

Discussed the possibility of having the Malone Road purchase announced in the local paper.

Discussed June 21 Trail Day that will be organized as part of the Eagle Scout project, which will help to provide ramps to the existing bridge which would make the bridge accessible to the disabled, as well as for horseback riding.

Discussed options to clear some slash from the existing forested logging area at Mt Jeff Cons Area.

6/2/08

Leslie made motion to adjourn. Dottie 2nded. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25pm.

Leslie Greiner

Secretary