

## Jan 7, 2013 Hubbardston Open Space Meeting Minutes

Members present: Jassy Bratko, Susan Fox, Peter DeBlois, Pat Taylor, Joe Cataldo, Charlie Clark, Leslie Greiner

Meeting called to order 7:10 pm

Leslie read minutes of Dec. 3, 1012 meeting, Susan accepted minutes, Charlie seconded. All in favor.

Paul Bedau of Yankee Equipment had submitted the lowest bid for leveling and covering the debris at Malone Rd. Conservation Area, was offered the contract, and completed the job. He also voluntarily plowed Malone Rd after the first snowstorm.

The meadow reclamation at Malone Rd Conservation Area is complete. Committee will apply for CPA funds for a 16' gate (estimate \$200.00-300.00) in order to restrict access and damage to the meadows by unauthorized vehicles, as well as to discourage illegal dumping.

Jassy and Joe met with the Selectboard, at their meeting, regarding the budget. Matt suggested using the Fund for Hubbardston Preservation to pay for mowing the picnic areas and the conservation areas and the meadow access to the Gates Hill, Dottie Rock, and Between the Pines trails at the Mt. Jefferson and Malone Rd. Conservation Areas. During the Selectboard meeting, the Selectboard stated that the DPW is to be responsible for the actual mowing. The Fund for Hubbardston Preservation is under the jurisdiction of the Parks Commission for approval. Brian Bullock stated he would add a line item to the budget for the mowing.

Susan made a motion of should the Open Space Committee ask the Parks Commission to approve the funds, generated from the hay lease, which have been deposited into the Fund for Hubbardston Preservation to mow the common areas at the Mt Jefferson and Malone Rd Conservation Areas on an annual basis. The common areas to be included would be the 2 picnic areas at both the Mt Jefferson and Malone Rd Conservation Areas, meadow access to the Gates Hill Trail, the Dottie Rock Trail, and the Between the Pines Trail. Peter 2nded the motion. All in favor.

Jassy plans to get the Open Space Committee on the Parks Commission Agenda, and Susan will go to the Conservation Commission to request the funding for the town to mow the areas and request a line item in the budget.

The committee discussed the feasibility of haying the fields once a year instead of twice, or haying at different time in order to protect the nesting bobolinks, and will continue to look for way to try and make it possible within the confines of the hay management plan and the haying contract.

Types of trail markers were discussed, and the committee is considering using different colors and shapes to mark the existing trails. Susan offered to check on prices.

Susan made a motion to adjourn. Charlie 2nded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned 8:40pm.

Respectfully submitted, Leslie Greiner, Secretary.

