

Weare Open Space Committee  
Minutes October 6, 2004  
Approved Version

Members present : Andrea Alderman, Mike and Sandy Boyko, John Flanders, John Ciampi, and Susan Weiss-Alexant, and Steve Najjar.

Guests : Chuck Bolton, Margaret Watkins, and Selectman Kurk attended as an observer.

Steve began this session by presenting a compendium of the origins and goals of the OSC for benefit of the guests.

**Margaret Watkins**, of the PWA, gave a presentation, with the aid of maps, to the OSC expounding on important qualities to be sought on acquiring open space land. Margaret discussed upland integrity, biological diversity, defining land of importance, large tracts of land worthy for wildlife protection, over lapping municipal boundaries, lands fragmented by roads, and she also pointed out target areas based on size, endangered and indicator species, vernal pool indicator species, and forest interior bird species. Margaret then asked attendees if they are aware of any land or water bodies that may fit this criterion, and several members made their suggestions which Margaret targeted for future reference. Afterwards, general discussion proceeded. *Steve*- large blocks of land are being lost at an alarming rate; *Margaret*- funding for targets can be a problem; *Steve*- he felt open space acquisition in Weare an important issue. There was some general discussion on funding and best way to go on this. Mainly it was decided to identify specific properties and go from there. *Chuck Bolton*- CIP can be used by setting aside yearly appropriation for a specific project; *Steve*- a slush fund is a possibility, but may not work as well as specifying specific target properties, and also he stated that size is important; *Margaret*- suggests going project by project, depending on importance of land; *Steve*- what about joint funding with other agencies? *Margaret*- funding now is very competitive. It is possible to use these funds for local projects, worth investigating; *Steve*- do you know of any water bodies that support trout? *Margaret*- there has been studies done on this and data is still being collected. Margaret then presented the Habitat Data Map and discussion ensued on this topic. Margaret also presented the Water Resources Map which members chose target water bodies based on undeveloped shoreline, natural water level, lack of domiciles, and general environmental importance. *Margaret*- willing to combine energies with the PWA and local organizations; *Steve*- is there flexibility in accepting easements?; *Margaret*- must have wildlife value, easement language is similar for ease in acquiring and monitoring; a separate parcel can be carved from the main parcel if needed. Margaret then added that New Boston and Goffstown now have an OSC; members should learn best methods of interfacing with Planning Board concerning development regulation; will provide a town by town tally of all the protected land, including a ratio of land size to amount of open space. *Chuck Bolton*- Weare has the highest growth of all the surrounding towns.

**Results from Contact Letter** – Chuck Bolton talked about the possibility of placing his property under some form of environmental protection, but for now, he hasn't made up his mind and he can't guarantee that his land won't be developed. He used a map to discuss his property, and to delineate the boundaries. He also mentioned the abutters, their names, and location of their properties. He also stated that the property has wood turtles. Discussion proceeded on how best to properly protect his property. He stated he will possibly sell the development rights on it. Steve advocated doing a site walk, set for Oct. 14 at 4PM.

**Previous Minutes** – John Ciampi read the minutes of September 14, 2004 in lieu of Jean Heinemann. Sandy Boyko made motion to approve, and Pat 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion carried.

**General Discussion** – Pat: we should have a final contact letter from Yvette Desmarais and a final contact list. Andrea: should we divide the contact list so that members will have a set number of contacts to call on follow up calls? Consensus-need to put some thought to this procedure.

**Next Meeting** – slated for October 26, 2004.

**Adjournment** – 9:30 PM.

Submitted respectfully as a true record,

John Ciampi (for Jean Heinemann)

cc: committee files  
Town clerk  
BOS