

Open Space Committee

Tuesday, January 13, 2026

MINUTES

- I. **Attendance and Approval of December 16, 2025 minutes:** Meeting called to order at 4:30pm. Present were members Lucy Abisalih (on phone), Mary Ann Glennon, Dawn Ackerman, Lynette Provencal, Sue Simmons, and Sandy Venner. Motion made and seconded by Mary and Sue to approve December 16, 2025 minutes and voted by all.
- II. **Trail Activities:** Trails are currently covered with snow and ice.
- III. **Event planning for 150th:**
 - Kendra Bowker stopped by to confirm that croquet at Carey Park will start on Sunday, May 3rd and thereafter be the second Sunday of the month through October. Plan is to have tent and table with banners and refreshments. Schedule needs to be established for volunteers.
 - Discussed publicity for planned walks. Dawn will get on Facebook and website and word out through schools. Mary will create flyer to post. Feb. 28th is the date set for a walk on the McLaren Trail from Brush Hill Road to the marsh to be led by Tim Simmons. The Junior Ecology flyer from the past will be a good handout. April 25th is the tentative date for a walk on one side or the other of the Town Forest beaver pond to coincide with the dedication of the new bench or with spring blooms on the Beaver Pond Reservation side. Sue will contact Greenbelt if it will be on their property. Dawn will have these dates posted on the 150th celebration events calendar.
- IV. **Update for Open Space and Recreation Plan:** Lucy reported the grant from the state has been approved and the Select Board signed the contract with Tighe & Bond on January 20th. The first meeting of the Work Group with the consultants will be virtual in early February. Lucy asked that OSC share any ideas for process and planning.
- V. **FY'26 and FY'27 line item and Trail Improvement Article:** Dawn submitted the request for the usual \$630 for the line item for FY'27. About \$300 remains for FY'26. Motion made and seconded by Sue and Sandy that up to \$50 to purchase animal track cards for walk.
- VI. It was decided to only hold a meeting in February if necessary, as the walk is planned for then. So tentatively the next meeting will be Tuesday, March 17th at 4:30pm. Adjourned at 6:00pm.