

Present: Selectmen Jack O'Reilly and Cosmas Iocovzzi; Planning Board Members Marlon Frink and Sandy Hislop; Conservation Commission Member Dorothy Watson; Historic District Commission

Members Barbara Hill and Gail Pare. Also present Planner Tom Morgan.

This, the first scheduled meeting of this committee, was opened at 7 p.m.

Barbara Hill advised that she and Gail Pare were only temporary reps of the HDC until the Commissions next meeting and their appointment of two representatives.

Election of Officers:

Jack O'Reilly, seconded by Sandy Hislop, nominated Marlon Frink as Chairman and Gail Pare as Vice Chairman . This was so voted.

Tom Morgan distributed a list of properties which the Planning Board had identified as possible sites for preservation of open space.

Marlon Frink stated that the Committee needs to set some policy/procedures/protocol and asked Tom Morgan if other town's policies were available. Tom had received none to date but agreed, with suggestions, to contact North Hampton and York, Maine. Barbara Hill suggested that the Rockingham Planning Commission has some ideas how other towns proceed and Tom should contact the RPC

Board discussed how best to approach property owners that have parcels with potential for development.

Gail Pare suggested that a public information meeting be held to advise the general public about the benefits to both themselves and the Town and also of the many options available. Owners of parcels of particular interest should be specifically invited.

Tom Morgan pointed out that the Town has limited resources through the town budget and the properties most threatened by development should be targeted.

It was noted that there are other resources available, such as Nature Conservancy Funds, various Federal matching grants and from the ConEdison development through Wetlands Mitigation Funds and the Town should take advantage.

All agreed that they need to have a written fact sheet listing the options, benefits and funding sources so that they can pass these on to potential property owners. Tom Morgan agreed to make a list and distribute.

Tom Morgan asked for general consensus of Committee - how they felt about public access to

land preserved as open space. Most agreed that the property owner should have final say.

It was agreed to hold an informational meeting sometime after October 16, a notice of time and date will be included in the Selectmen's newsletter. In the meantime, Gail Pare agreed to contact and invite Phil Auger or someone equally knowledgeable on open space preservation.

The next meeting of this Committee is scheduled for October 4th. Marlon Frink suggested that the Committee separate into two person teams, equally divide the names on the list, and contact the owners, informally, to determine if there is any interest

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm on a motion by O'Reilly, seconded by Iocovozzi.

Pat Main
Secretary.