

**Approved Minutes of the OS&R Committee Meeting
Monday, February 4, 2013 at 7:30 PM
Rockport Public Library**

Members in attendance: Lawrence Neal (LN), Peter Van Demark (PV), Ted Tarr (TT), Stephanie Cunningham (SC), Robert Rushton (RR)

Other Rockport citizens in attendance: Barbara Sparks and Sam Coulbourn from the Millbrook Meadow Committee (MMC)

7:30PM Meeting called to Order

Open Session:

MMC members requested our support of their CPC application for funds. They presented an overview of their efforts and the projected work to improve the park. Their goals are to bring the meadow and pond back to the condition it was 30 years ago, and put a long-term plan in place for proper maintenance of the area. Our members asked several questions about the project as described in the CPC application. The work is to include a detailed analysis of current conditions and needs. It will also establish the town's residence expectations of the area. Our members asked many questions made several suggestions about the project. These covered drainage, plants, wildlife, uses and users of the park, finance, and the public presentation of the project for the best chance of success. All agreed that it is the most used and enjoyed non-ocean-front open space in town, and needs attention.

RR made a motion that we write a letter to the CPC in support of project. SC seconded, motion passed 5/0.

A letter of support (below) was written during the meeting. LN will forward it to Mary Frances of CPC and MMC. LN made a motion and RR seconded it to approve the letter. The motion passed 5/0.

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by LN and seconded by TT to approve the Jan 7, 2013 meeting minutes as amended. The motion passed on a 5/0 vote.

Discussion of land protection progress and plan:

LN reported land protection efforts are continuing on two pieces of previously discussed property by the committee. There will be a meeting this week with the TA and Mel Michaels on how to proceed.

TT reported that the Cape Ann Trail Group has been formally incorporated. Its efforts are expected to gain funding and plan activities to improve the local trails. They will work with the Essex County Greenbelt Association.

OSR plan review:

Each member has done a review of their section. They mostly found small changes that are needed with some open questions to be answered. **PV** will forward a Word document on which to each section leader to make the corrections. The following correction codes were developed to track needed changes:

Green highlight = Adding text

Red highlight = Deleted text

Yellow highlight = A question on the text

Future Meeting Dates and Agenda's:

4 March Meeting: OSR Plan review and update,

1 April Meeting: Update the "Parcels of High interest", list top (5-10) actions to pursue

Motion to Adjourn:

9:10PM PV motioned to adjourn, RR seconded. Vote passed 5/0.

These minutes prepared by LN



Rockport Open Space and Recreation Committee

Town Hall, Broadway

Rockport, MA 01966

Stephanie Cunningham, Resident
Robert Rushton, Economic Development Committee
Peter H. Van Demark, Cartographer

Lawrence Neal, Conservation Commission
Frederick H. Tarr III, Planning Board

February 4, 2013

Mary B. Francis
Chairperson
Community Preservation Act Committee

Dear Mrs. Francis,

Tonight the Rockport Open Space and Recreation Committee approved a motion to support the Millbrook Meadow Committee application to the Community Preservation Committee for CPA funds. The meadow and the pond area are a heavily-used park that is an historic site, a handy "back yard" for many community activities, and a popular recreation area for all ages. The application provides a well thought out process to restore the meadow and pond to a long-term, sustainable landscape.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Neal
Chairman
Open Space and Recreation Committee