

**TOWN OF COLCHESTER  
OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2009  
COLCHESTER TOWN HALL – 6:00 P.M.  
REGULAR MEETING**

**Members Present:** Chairman Nick Norton, Vice-Chairman Adam Turner, Jay Gigliotti, William Hochhlozer, Rob Misbach, Jay Cohen (6:03 p.m.)

**Members Absent:** Liz Gillman

**Others Present:** Rosemary Coyle, BOS Liaison, Lisa Hageman, Land Trust President, Andy George

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Chairman Norton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. **Citizen's Comments:** None
3. **Approval of the March 10, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes:** A. Turner motioned to accept the minutes of March 10, 2009, seconded by W. Hochhlozer. All members present voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

(J. Cohen arrived at this time.)

**4. Land Acquisitions:**

• **Possible purchase of 31 acres on McDonald Road:**

The town had been approached about a property on McDonald Road. Originally the land was thought to be 24 acres and a price of \$180,000 was agreed upon. After a survey it was discovered that there were actually 31 acres and the assessed value was \$220,000. The town is limited on how much money they have available through such funding as fee -in-lieu. The Land Trust has agreed to partner with the town in buying the land and the land owner is willing to make a \$40,000 donation to the Land Trust to make up for the difference between the agreed upon cost and the assessed amount. The land borders the Ruby Cohen property and is at the end of an aquifer. The 31 acres along with the Ruby Cohen property would give the town an approximate total of 150 acres. The commission briefly compared the land to the Property Evaluation Worksheet of the Open Space Plan. The property appears to meet the majority of the qualifications. L. Hageman spoke on behalf of the Land Trust saying that they feel it is a good time to develop such a partnership with the town. There are not many grants available to purchase land. By partnering it can still be done. She feels it is better that while bought as a partnership the town be the owner. The town already owns the land abutting the property to be purchased.

J. Cohen motioned to approve and recommend to the BOS the purchasing of the additional 31 acres on McDonald Road with the Property Evaluation Worksheet be completed and presented to the Open Space Commission at the next meeting, seconded by J. Gigliotti. All members present voted in favor with A. George abstaining. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**.5. Farm Study Report:** The farm study is quite lengthy. An executive summary should be developed and placed on the website.

**6. Open Space Plan Discussion:**

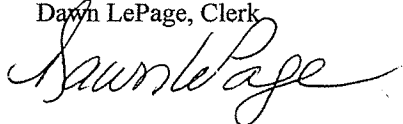
- **Section I, Formation and Purpose:** The plan does not talk about the mission of the commission, only talking about the mission of the task force in which the plan was written by. The commission will work on rewriting the mission to be geared towards the commission. W. Hochhlozer suggested that a portion be added to deal with how legal fees would be covered if an easement were to be challenged and when easements are encroached upon. The plan will need to agree with state statute.

**7. Any Other Business Deemed Necessary:** None

**8. Adjournment:** J. Cohen motioned to adjourn, seconded by W. Hochhlozer. All members present voted in favor. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Chairman Norton adjourned the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

Dawn LePage, Clerk



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