

Hamilton Open Space Committee  
Minutes of Meeting on April 23, 2018

Members present: Gretel Clark, Marcia Dolce, Jackie Hodge, Rosie Kennedy, Zach Peters

Attending: Richard Boroff, Christina Holz, George Tarr

Chair Clark opened the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Emer's meeting minutes from 2/6/18 were approved at last meeting on 3/6/18 but still need to be forwarded to Jim Hankin.

No meeting minutes ready yet from 3/6/2018 meeting, Jackie took meeting minutes and will have them ready for next meeting.

Three OSC members have their term ending soon. To re-up, these members need to send an email to Jim Hankin. Zach and Marcia both plan to re-up. There still remains one vacancy on the Committee.

**Conservancy District:** On 3/6/2018, several members of the OSC committee went to Planning Board meeting to discuss the conservancy district. The Planning Board agreed that the OSC could work to redraft the conservancy district. At town meeting, a vote was made to keep the Hamilton conservancy district. There was some discussion about forming a subcommittee to go out and check all the conservancy district areas. Zach thinks that the conservancy district was based on elevations, so low areas would likely be wetlands.

Zach sent out the list of towns that have conservancy districts. Possibly include vernal pool buffer area in redrafted conservancy district. Possibly identify connectivity between vernal pools, and include intermittent streams protection. Conservation Commission would need to enforce conservancy district. OSC Committee wants to have a meeting to discuss action plan, invite all interested parties, including Conservation Commission, local scientists and other interested parties. Jackie will put notice in the local newspaper to solicit interested people for this subcommittee for next month's meeting.

George Tarr said our committee could become a town committee rather than a subcommittee. We would have to have it approved at Town Meeting then everyone would have to be reappointed.

**Dark Sky Bylaw:** Draft Dark Sky bylaw was reviewed and discussed. There is some feeling among committee members that the Planning Board should finalize the dark sky bylaw rather than the OSC. Conservation Commission voted only to send letter to Planning Board, never voted on the draft bylaw, so cannot forward it to the Planning Board. Jackie will contact Jim Hankin to ask him to send draft dark sky bylaw to the Planning Board.

**Scenic Road Bylaw:** Jackie confirmed with the Town Clerk that there are 13 designated scenic roads in Hamilton, MA. Jackie will draft a letter to the Town's Clerk Office to put it on record that there are 13 scenic roads in town. We have a scenic road bylaw draft started by Rosie, which was a compilation of other scenic road bylaws in the state. Need to define a stonewall and include prohibitions against burying a stonewall. Will continue review at next meeting. Rosie will resend electronic copy to OSC members.

Potential new member shared contact info.

Next meeting: 4/30/18 for review of scenic roads bylaw