Open Space Advisory
Minutes

May 11, 2004

The meeting convened at 7:10 and minutes were approved.

In review of the previous meeting, it was determined that in 1998 the town voted to donate 50% of current use for conservation. And Ann Truslo's advice was to go for the big donors, commercial and private, and to zero in on Copp Drive residents.

Heidi reported that Jean Ragonese had spoken with her about ways that we could raise and manage $15,000. John Ryan, Town Council, told Heidi that legally we could bring the money into the Conservation Commission fund and that the Commission could then pay the money out to SPNF for the option, as we were hoping to do, which would give us a chance of being able to return unsecured loan money. We need to bring this plan to the Conservation Commission.

Heidi stressed that we need to write down the whole process and present it in writing to potential supporters so that everyone is working with the same understanding and information. They need to understand how and exactly what we'll do, what we hope for, how it would work. People need to know clearly that they they may not get their money back if this project doesn't pass at town meeting.

THE PLAN (to be voted on by Conservation Commission) - $15,000 in donations and unsecured loans would come to the Conservation Commission which would hold them and then pay out the total 30k to SPNF toward the $45,000 option to buy the Lawrence property. Ultimately, the town would own the land, and SPNF would hold the easement.

The whole plan and its relation to the bond being voted on in March will be discussed at

the Conservation Commission public hearing which will happen as soon as possible. Heidi is willing to facilitate. Kimberly as town treasurer has custody of Conservation Commission funds and would do the book keeping on donations and write any reimbursement checks. (In the case of anonymous donations, Kimberly would be the only one who would know their identity.)

We need to have everything in writing by public hearing. Since Mike is having trouble

Philips Exeter Board of Directors (Noreen)

Noreen's neighborhood (26 houses) (Noreen)

Rotary Club - Noreen

WalMart -

Groups from Kenn's news article (Kenn)

Two local resources (Holly)

MONDAY 5/17 - Meet with Conservation Commission

Set date of public hearing for June and publicize in newspapers

If flyer approved by Selectmen, get bulk mailing permit. Heidi cuts checks Tuesday.

TUESDAY 5/18

OS meeting to get the whole team clear on plan details, report on donor groundwork, decide on date to begin presentations to donors

BY FRIDAY 5/21

Kenn and Janice to work up two presentations, one for companies and one for residents.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15