East Haddam Open Space Committee
Land Use Office

Regular Meeting Minutes
January 27, 2025

1. Call to Order

The Regular Meeting of the East Haddam Open Space Committee was called to order by Mr. Brady at 7:30 PM at the Municipal Office Complex.

2. Attendance

Members Present: Will Brady (HDC), Harvey W. Thomas (BOF), Joe Sina (CONS), Susan Kinsman (P&Z), Andrew Compagno (EHLT), Tanya Bourgoin (BOS), Travis Goodie (REC)

Members Absent: Mary Augustiny (IWWC), Marc Pissciotti (BOE), Jessica Stone (EDC)

Also Present: James Ventres (Land Use Administrator)

3. Approval of Minutes

A motion by Ms. Kinsman to accept the October 28, 2024, minutes as presented. Seconded by Mr. Goodie and unanimously approved. Mr. Thomas abstained.

4. Bills

No bills.

5. Discussion

a. Sprecher Property Exchange

Mr. Ventres noted that he did not think this item was fully discussed at the last meeting and wanted to make sure that the committee members were clear on the exchange. There is a 5.6-acre parcel on the corner of the Harris Property that will be exchanged for 2.2 acres along with a conservation easement that runs north-south along the Dean property. This will connect Harris and Dean which then gets hikers to Parker Road and that then connects to the Hatch Lot. This would allow a continuation of the existing trails and allow hikers to have a full day adventure in town. This has been in discussion for at least two decades and is exciting that it can happen now.

A motion by Ms. Bourgoin to move forward on the Sprecher property exchange as outlined by Mr. Ventres in the documents provided. Seconded by Mr. Goodie and unanimously approved.

b. Kronberg Property – Update

Mr. Ventres noted that there has been back and forth between the DEEP and the surveyors that required a hard copy to be provided to resolve the confusion. There were computer compatibility issues between DEEP and the surveyors that could not be resolved and thus a hard copy document was provided. The legal description has been sent to the attorneys as the State wants updated title insurance based on that new description.

The State has a conservation easement to be recorded in the land records and seeks updated title insurance. This will enable the Town to receive the grant monies. All open space properties have title insurance included in the purchase.
Discussion ensued related to title insurance and the State's requirement for it.

6. Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Goodie to adjourn the meeting at 7:54 pm. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kinsman and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon A. Goyette
Recording Secretary