

**TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN – OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES – OPEN SESSION  
MONDAY – JULY 18, 2016 – 8:15 AM  
JUDGE WELSH ROOM - 260 COMMERCIAL STREET**

The Open Space Committee convened on July 18, 2016 from 8:15 a.m. – 9:35 a.m. in the Judge Welsh Meeting Room.

Members present: Dennis Minsky, Celine Gandolfo, Deb Albenberg and Rebecca Matarazzi (recording). Role call was taken. Arriving after meeting went into executive session: Asst. Manager, David Gardner, Gloria McPherson. Executive Session ended at 8:59 a.m Dennis moved and Rebecca 2<sup>nd</sup> all agreed for the Committee to go into open session.

Minutes were discussed for the following:

6/13/16: after some discussion and with edits, Dennis moved to approve, Celine 2<sup>nd</sup> motion carried 3-0-0.

Minutes of 6/20/16: Some discussion and editing of minutes resulted in Dennis moving to approve with Celine 2<sup>nd</sup>, motion carried 3-0-0.

Deb advised the Committee that the Americorps intern, Emily, has been working one day/week at the Shank Painter Pond Sanctuary to weed, water and tidy. Dennis asked the group if they thought that only one volunteer could manage the SPP and keep it in order. Celine asked if DPW could help water. The group decided that more than one person would be needed. Dennis also advised that he had made numerous calls to professional firms (Bayberry, etc.) and that all firms were too busy to take on. Perhaps next year. More discussion ensued that only plants that can ‘make it on their own’ should be planted there (more drought tolerant). Rebecca mentioned that the year the shrubs were planted, they were planted late in a very dry season, not watered enough and as a result, we lost a good number of species. David G. conveyed to the group that the Town cannot pay any one individual to water/weed. Deb spoke about the need to look at the goals needed for the SPP. Gloria chimed in that the SPP was not an area that should be treated as a “trophy garden”, but to leave it natural and have only the plants that survive, survive. Deb added that the SPP is already a “distressed area,” given that folks are walking on the grounds. The group will continue to work to find more volunteers, possibly with some help from the DPW, to keep the paths clear so that the Sanctuary is inviting to the public.

Gloria gave news that Provincetown and Truro will soon “share” a fulltime Americorps volunteer starting in late October. Scope of work included land monitoring, maintenance, Trust properties, etc.

Deb suggested that we schedule a bird walk or nature walk at one of our many acquisitions, advertise it and include the public. It would better inform the public, include the public in the Town’s acquisitions and overall be a fun experience. She went on mentioning seeing many new bird species when out in the field. Deb also suggested that we use some of our coffers to pay for binoculars for the public’s use, for these walks.

Future agenda items: Coastal Acres, script for seller discussions.

At 9:35, Dennis moved the meeting be adjourned, Rebecca 2<sup>nd</sup> and motion carried 3-0-0.