

## Casco Open Space Commission Meeting – Final/Approved

Meeting Date: August 15, 2016

Present: Open Space – Chairwoman Barbara York, Frank Kantor, Keith Morehouse, Thomas Peaslee, Eric Dibner; Conservation Committee – Nadia Herмос; and Public Attendee – Dana Watkins.

The meeting was brought to order about 6:37 P.M. Barbara called for review of the meeting agenda, and asked for changes. No changes were identified.

Minutes approval for May, June and July was addressed. May and June were approved unanimously (5/0; Eric moved/Keith seconded). The July minutes were also approved unanimously, with Eric absent and, thus, abstaining (4/0; Frank moved/Tom seconded). During consideration of these actions, and after, it was recommended that Dave M. be asked about the acceptability of use of landowner names in minutes.

Dana requested and was recognized to speak on the accuracy of the May and June minutes. Seems the record does not show the situation with regard to when the \$100,000 for the Jackson property was first discussed and then “approved” by the Commission. It is not certain if it was it May, June or both, meetings because the minutes are not clear on that subject. We believe the subject was discussed at both meetings, but perhaps not the amount at both.

Old Business included the meeting place location, which is agreed to be the large Board of Selectpersons meeting room at the Town Hall. The default location, in the event of a conflict, is the smaller room across the hall.

The Jackson property was discussed at length; it is not purchased yet, intent is to keep property in its entirety, need to define COSC expectations to working group, makeup of the working group to determine future options and Portland Water District (PWD) potential funding offset to protect water quality.

The surveys of the 2 properties were discussed, but mainly the one off Ring Landing Road. Barry Allen, Lost Corner, has finished the ~70-acre property and provided the Town Manager and COSC with products, while requesting review and response. Much discussion over where exactly the road is in relation to the parcel, the landowners, the potential for access, ownership of road, maintenance of road, etc. Keith will pass on recommendation to Dave M. to defer to Barry’s expertise on the survey product, but request clarification of some aspects.

The 930 Roosevelt Trail property was also discussed. It was eventually decided that an offer to PWD should be made for them to secure it for protection of the Crooked River and the Sebago watershed. COSC will send a note to David and contact PWD (Keith).

The COSC group went down through the list of “TO DO” items, item by item, for all but the last 3 which were deferred until next meeting. One of the items, to make a special exception to the overview here, concerned the status of the COSC budget, which was revealed as: Operations - \$7,662.76; Open Space -

\$120,661.24. However, \$100,000 will be taken from that for the Jackson property. The last three items on the agenda are duplicative of items in the "TO DO" list, i.e., letters to the various landowners. Some of these "TO DO" items are still hanging but, notably, a few have or are being addressed.

New Business includes the Grant property situation, and draft memo to the BOS. The sense of the COSC group was that the Grant memo should not be sent because there needs to be resolution of the lot minimum square footage before any action can be taken. The Grants will have to be informed (Keith/Frank).

Eric, having just returned from vacation, has not had an opportunity to provide the system that Loon Echo uses for arriving at priorities for protecting land, i.e., their scoring system.

Public participation was provided during the course of the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

K. Morehouse, COSC