

Columbia Open Space Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes corrected
Thursday November 16, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ann Dunnack at 8:03 AM.

Present: Ann Dunnack, Shirley King, Don Schofield, Paul Ramsey, Don Cianci (seated for Walt Tabor).

Approval of October 19, 2017 minutes

Audience of citizens: Mark Walter

Old Business:

Don spoke with Gary Therrien who was not able to attend today's meeting. Gary is interested in speaking to the town about selling part of the land but the family have not decided what they all want to do. It is suggested that we meet with both Gary and his sister when they have an understanding of what they both want to do.

Paul reported on his conversation with Honor Lawler after the site walk. She is very enthusiastic about the property and has spoken with Frank Kelly, "Markell" property, who showed an interest. According to Honor, they may be willing to split the costs of a new appraisal and accept a fair market value. Honor feels there is a good chance that a State Open Space Grant could be possible for up to 65% of the costs.

Mark reported that there is no news on Oberlander and he will contact Henry Beck.

Mark also reported that Hebron has won the suit with Jacques and may be interested in joining Columbia in purchasing this property.

Mark suggested that with a new Board of Selectmen just being elected we should prepare a presentation to explain the value to the town of the concept of a Community Forest. Paul suggested that we involve the Trust for Public Land in the presentation due to their expertise.

.New Business:

None.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 AM

Submitted by Shirley King Secretary

