

**APPROVED**  
**Town of Grantham**  
**Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**March 5, 2015**

Thain Allan called the Open Space Committee meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. in the Town Hall located at 300 Route 10 South, Grantham, NH 03753.

Members Present:

Thain Allan, Chair  
Allen Wilson, Vice Chair  
Craig McArt, Secretary  
Conrad Frey, Zoning Board of Adjustment Chair  
Charlie McCarthy, Planning Board Vice Chair

Members Absent:

Susan Buchanan, Grantham Conservation Commission

Members of the Public:

None

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 5 meeting was made by Mr. Wilson and seconded by Mr. McCarthy.

*Unanimously Approved*

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

Chairman Allan distributed a sample summary spreadsheet he had prepared listing 48 of the >100 parcels the committee had inventoried. The Committee agreed that such a spreadsheet would be helpful in presenting an executive summary of its parcel inventory and proceeded to discuss details. It was decided that some column categories could be added (Scenic vista, Cultural/historical site) and others could be more specific. At the same time, it would be important to keep the summary as simple as possible and not too detailed. Mr. Allan said he would continue to work on the spreadsheet to include all the inventoried parcels.

Broader aspects of the projected executive summary were discussed. Many opinions were expressed on how to best define and convey the existence of a scenic vista from a parcel, or parcels that present a scenic vista when seen from afar. Mr. McArt offered to try to pull together some photos of acknowledged vistas in Grantham to add to the summary. He also said that he had made a map showing cemeteries, old mill sites and schoolhouses that might be effective in communicating locations of so-called cultural sites. Reference to the two large maps that the committee produced should be included in the summary as well. One of them exhibits the degree or type of protection afforded the inventoried parcels while the other one displays three types of wildlife habitat that have been determined to have the highest ranking in New Hampshire and the region (from the NH Wildlife Action Plan). The committee's "Reader's Digest" summary of the SB388 report with comments relative to Grantham will be attached to the summary.

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The question came up as to whether or not all the parcel inventory sheets were now complete. Mr. Wilson and Mr. McArt had helped out in completing some of Ms. Buchanan's assigned parcels but had not done all of them. Whether the remaining ones had been completed was not known.

Reflecting on the general discussion the committee had with Conservation Commission Chair Sheridan Brown earlier in the month, members were reminded that they had offered to meet with the Commission in April to explain their progress and obtain feedback prior to an anticipated meeting with the Select Board. Mr. Allan will try to arrange a time to meet when he is available and the Commission is receptive in that time frame. The next meeting of the Open Space Committee on April 2, 2015 at 8:30 a.m. in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room at the Town Hall will focus on preparation for that proposed meeting.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Mr. McArt and seconded by Mr. Wilson to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

***Unanimously Approved***

Respectfully Submitted,

Craig McArt,  
Secretary