

9/7/16

➤ **Article 9E: CPC – Beaver Dam**

Bill Keohan, Chair of the Community Preservation Committee, presented Article 9E. Article 9E asks Town Meeting to appropriate \$599,000 to acquire 127.8 acres off Beaver Dam Road, known as Tidmarsh Farms West, for open space and recreational purposes. The intention of this purchase is to preserve the waters of Beaver Brook and surrounding areas. It is an area of critical environmental concern. The water from this property runs along Beaver Brook to Bartlett Pond and to White Horse Beach. The Department of Marine and Environmental Affairs is working diligently on this project and has provided a letter of support for this article. The land is comprised of cranberry bog upland woodlands, extensive frontage on Beaver Dam Road, and the “Church Lot” which sits at over 300 feet in elevation and is part of the highest elevated landscape on the eastern seaboard south of Acadia National Park. The land will be held in the care, custody and control of the Conservation Commission. The Massachusetts Audubon Society is purchasing approximately 190 acres of land to the east and is planning to build a Nature Visitor Center.

Questions:

- The application was dated December 2014, why has it taken so long? (S Sheridan) It takes time to negotiate acquisitions and get the appraisals done, once terms are agreed upon and funding is identified, it can move forward to Town Meeting.
- It was assessed in 2014? (S Sheridan) It was and it has since been reassessed.

Patrick O’Brien made a motion to recommend Article 9E to Town Meeting. Scott Stephenson, second. The motion carries unanimously (12-0-0).