

Shelburne Open Space Committee Meeting – 6/27/16

Member present Larry Flaccus, Jim Perry, John Wheeler, Norm Beebe, David Schochet, and Joel Dwight

Larry called the meeting to order at 7:10pm. The minutes of the April 20th were reviewed and accepted with two spelling corrections.

Larry told us about an upcoming workshop Tuesday, July 26th from 6-8pm in the first floor meeting room of the Olver Transit Center in Greenfield. The topic is commercial scale wood heat and air quality impacts.

David gave us a village tree survey update. He had spoken with tree warden Jim Richardson and Tom Massa of the Shelburne Beautification Committee. Tom and Will Flanders are on the Beautification Committee and are interested in the tree project. David also met with Carmella Lanzo and Cheryl Lander of the Greater Shelburne Falls Business Association and they thought this project could work in with a walking route the Arms Library is considering involving buildings of architectural interest and the Hollywood movie stars display. It also might tie in with the cultural district which might yield some grant money. David reminded us we purchased the tree id signs from VOSS Signs. Jim Perry may be interested in some signs for the trail which runs through his property. Mary Prouse said there is no money available from FRCOG but she would be available for a bit of consulting. OSC had suggested the Selectboard appoint a tree committee but they haven't done anything about that yet. David wondered if the group would be interested in taking this on as a project. He suggest going out to put together a trail. John Wheeler suggest a tie in with the Bridge of Flowers and the committee which oversees that. David spoke with Marion Taylor to get her thoughts on Arts Walk Day. Larry suggested we see if there is an Eagle Scout looking for a project. Norm told us he had worked on the tree project on Mechanic Street. He suggested we talk with homeowners and had received help from a tree person in Berkshire County that had suggested certain species to be planted in the verge/tree belt. They did the Mechanic Street tree project in the 90's by having the landowners pay for the trees put on their property. Larry thought if we started by mapping the trees that are already present and forming a trail it might lead to more related projects such as planting etc. Jim Perry will walk the wooded loop trail with David.

John said at the last Planning Board meeting Will Flanders said he was wondering if there are any volunteers interested in working at the Audubon Land. Larry told us Audubon is not interested in any help. David will speak with the Visitors Center and the Business Association about the plaques and stars that are presently on display. Larry wondered if there was anyone on the Buckland side that would like to get involved. David will speak with Andrea Llammas about that possibility. Norm is willing to walk with Jim Richardson and look at the trees downtown and get Jim's thoughts. John said Whit Sandford and the Shelburne Falls Village Network are exploring parking options right now. David will explore how that might help us by calling Whit. The committee agreed we should go forward with this project.

John told us the Planning Board had a meeting concerning parking on the Shelburne side of the Falls. A number of interested people attended and talked it over. They also talked about upcoming development of the Swan lot and Singley building. People noted a lack of good signage pointing out less noticeable parking areas. The Planning Board is looking into what they should focus on next. John also told us Adam Hinds who is running for state representative is coming to his farm to speak and meet with people.

Norm reported for the Rec Committee that they just got approval to apply for a \$90,000 grant that would be used to redo the tennis court including the sub-base and fabric. It may take some time for it to come through perhaps a couple of years. Their next project will be the proposed playground.

David spoke about the map situation which is not being maintained any longer by Rita. It needs to be updated and Larry thought Rita might be engaged for consulting. He will speak with her. Joel volunteered to help with the map project. David would be interested in helping as well.

Meeting adjourned 8:24pm. Next meeting is July 25th.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joel Dwight
Secretary Pro Tem