

5/21/12 Shelburne, MA OSC Meeting

Called to order 7:05

Members in attendance: David, Cynthia, Paul, Larry, Joel

Guest: Fletcher Clark

Joel appointed secretary pro term

reviewed the minutes of OSC meeting 9/23/12

corrections made and accepted

- David spoke about our visit to the Smead property concerning the sale of a parcel and withdrawal from Chapter 61.

David described what the group (Linda, David, Josiah and Joel) saw and also met with Tom Miner from Conservation Commission and the buyers representative.

He further described how the maps were reviewed by the group and how the workbook was utilized.

-David had spoken with with Cori Young, the owner of the parcel, about other ways of protecting her land and raising funds.

The other options available do not have potential to yield an amount comparable to that which will be realized by the sale of the property.

The new owners will build a house and barn and hobby farm on the land.

The recommendation of the group is that the town should wave its right of first refusal and the sale should proceed.

- David had spoken to the L.A.N.D but they need an appraisal and the town to have a current OS&R plan and the town would have to put forward the money and then perhaps get reimbursed 40-70%.

David had realized some parts of the Land Evaluation Workbook were missing and David added those parts he thought had been omitted and came up with what he feels is a complete hand book. He will forward copies to Larry and Cynthia for their review to see if they agree this is a complete copy.

Next the group was addressed by Fletcher Clark, he had worked as a land steward intern with the Aldo Leopold Foundation for 9 months in Baraboo, Wisconsin. He described the work he was involved in with them and was there while the movie Green Fire was being filmed.

Fletcher is licensed to show the film and it will be shown by Pothole Pictures. It's really about a land ethic, a community involvement in land stewardship. He is promoting the documentary film. Fletcher spoke about the attitude of community stewardship of land which was promulgated by Aldo Leopold. David shared with us that he had seen the movie Green Fire, that Aldo Leopold had worked in the 20's, 30's and 40's and on soil science concerning the dust bowl.

Leopold was the author of Sand County Almanac.

Fletcher wintered in the shack that Leopold converted from a hen house on the farm he built near Madison, Wisconsin and upon which he restored the soil.

Fletcher wants to show the movie then have some local people share how the Aldo Leopold land ethic concept is viewed by them and how they feel about and participate in land stewardship to further connect and interest people within the community.

Larry pointed out there is a sustainability group that meetings monthly in Shelburne Falls to discuss sustainability issues.

Will Flanders is a leader in the sustainability group.

The 72 minute film will be shown as part of Riverfest weekend upstairs in the Memorial Hall June 8th at 7:30pm.

David spoke about a group of people who are growing vegetables near his home and he will contact them to see if they are interested in attending/participating.

Fletcher would like people to engage in a community discussion around the local production, consumption and appreciation of locally produced foods.

Larry will email some folks to introduce Fletcher and Green Fire and help him promote the showing of the film

John Payne came into our meeting to tell David it was time for his presentation about Chapter 61 Right of First Refusal.

Cynthia wondered if there would be anything that would move forward from a discussion generated by the film or would it be a pleasant and interesting interaction with no further effect.

David returned and told us there has to be a meeting for public input re Right of First Refusal property.

The Select Board would also like us to work on figuring a way to introduce the advancement of CPA.

David has reserved a table at Riverfest and is recruiting someone to be there with him and may need help assembling more packets to be available upon request.

There will be info on OSC, OSC fund, postcards to obtain a land information packet, invasives handouts, hiking maps and donation can.

Larry said Staples might make a banner for the table.

The discussion then turned to how to go about making a new open space plan.

Cynthia said the first time the OSRP was done all the stakeholders needed to be brought to the table a FRCOG person will help facilitate making a new plan.

Kimberly McPhee will be our key person from FRCOG

Cynthia and Larry said we need to involve many groups for diversity of impact.

We then spoke about what people might be potentially interested in participating.

Cynthia suggested we should use the draft questionnaire as a place to start.

Larry will contact Kiim McPhee to send us copies of questionnaires used by other towns.

Cynthia wondered if the \$5000 worth of FRCOG help could be used later on

Larry wondered if map updates could be started on now

David thinks FRCOG decides which maps from 05 will be updated

Larry will speak to Kim McPhee

David said we need to decide how to put together an Ad Hoc committee.

We then talked about getting a new OSC liason from Conservation Commission because Norm Davenport would like to be relieved from that duty.

Larry spoke about impending legislation that would affect CPA and how it is funded which would appropriate 25 million annually to the fund from budget surplus. Larry moved and it was seconded, that we contact legislators to express the Open Space Committee's support for the legislation. It was passed unanimously.

David will call Senator Rosenberg (Stan.Rosenburg@MaSenate.gov) (617-722-1532) and Theresa Murray (Theresa.Murray@MaSenate.gov) (617-772-1500)

This funding could bring town reimbursement from approximately 25% to 75%.

Meeting adjourned at 9:19 pm.