

## Shelburne Open Space Committee

October 22, 2018

Shelburne Town Hall

**Present:** David Schochet (chair), Larry Flaccus, Jim Perry, Joel Dwight, Norm Beebe

Regrets: Melissa Patterson (FLT)

Guests: Whit Sanford

**1. Call to order:** Meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by David Schochet.

**2. Minutes:** Minutes of the 9/24/18 meeting were reviewed and several minor corrections were noted to clarify the FRCOG-FLT grant for trail assessment.

**Action:** moved by Flaccus, seconded by Beebe to accept the minutes as corrected.

Approved unanimously.

**3. Grant for Mahican-Mohawk Trail Extension**

Contract between FRCOG and DCR has not been finalized, holding up the Trail Assessment grant of \$4000. It should be finalized by December. Discussion on whether the process could be accelerated using funds allocated by Town, since weather in late December could be problematic for trail assessment. The assessment needs to be completed before the next round of funding proposals is due (February 1, 2019)

**Action:** Schochet will contact Melissa at FLT to discuss options and timetable.

**4. Contact with trail abutters/landowners**

- Beebe discussed project with Mr. Lawless, owner of the Mahew Steel property at the end of Deerfield Ave. He had no major objections to the assessment but wanted to be kept informed. Beebe also talked with Dr. Topolski who was OK with the assessment.
- Schochet talked with Mr. Kilgallen, new owner of the Singley property, who had no objections, although he was unsure about the exact layout of his property.
- Tom Johnson talked with Ambrose Mewa who had no objection.
- Art Schwenger reported via 9/28/18 memo that he discussed the trail and assessment with Jane Hanford, who also gave an OK for the assessment.

There was a question if there was an additional landowner (Bob Spencer) as shown map provided by FLT. It was unclear which property/building this entailed, or if the buildings were part of the Singley transaction.

**Action:** Dwight will contact Bob Spencer to clarify the property ownership.

**5. Trail Funding**

Sanford offered the assistance of the GSFABA in exploring grant funding to continue building the trail. DCR funding maximum is \$50k per funding round.

**Action:** Sanford will keep the trail project in mind as she explores options for other grants.

**6. OSC Membership**

The Committee is in need of several members. There are 1, 2 and 3 year vacancies to fill.

- Flaccus spoke to Joan Greenfield who had expressed an interest in supporting the OSC.
- Beebe will talk with Faith and Peter Williams.

Other ideas for promotion;

- Post on Facebook (Sanford)
- Newspaper articles
- Town Website
- Email using OSC mailing list
- Ag commission - farms

**Action:** Perry will draft short memo for email

## 7. **Town Website**

Town has new website which OSC can access to post minutes, OSC plan, etc. No one was able to attend training.

**Action:** Flaccus will contact Town Administrator for access code and instructional sheet.

## 8. **Trail Items**

**a. Map sales:** Perry has been selling maps at Tower Trail trailhead with contributions totaling about \$20 for 78 maps sold. One half box of trail maps remain (?600) – may need to update map with new trails before reprinting.

**Action:** Schochet will collect donations from maps sold at the Visitor Center; Perry and Schochet will deposit map sale proceeds in Open Space revolving fund.

**b. Audubon signage:** Perry reported on hiker's confusion at juncture of Fire Tower Trail and Audubon property due to lack of clear signage.

**Action:** Perry will contact Audubon to discuss how to clarify signage.

**c. Wooded Loop Trail:** Trail is in need of maintenance following logging operations. There is a need to reestablish the trail route, reblaze trail markers and remount tree signs as well as clear brush and possibly reroute portions of the trail. Trail surface remains rough due to tracked logging machinery.

Is there a possibility to extend the trail through to Summit Drive following skidding trails?

**Action:** Schochet will contact John Payne and his daughter to discuss access and possible assistance from Curt.

## 9. **Village Walk**

Sign on Jaros property was damaged, and identification of tree may be incorrect – European Basswood, not American Basswood. Should we remove sign, remake a new sign or plant an American Basswood? Perry has repaired the sign by regluing.

**Action:** Dwight will research tree species and possibly locate leaf or tree shape for a new sign. Flaccus will take sign sample to Copy Cat to see if they could make a new sign and less cost than a custom sign at Voss (\$50)

## 10. **Conflict of Interest Training**

Several members are due for retraining.

**Action:** Go to the Town Clerk page on the Town Website for a link to the automated training program, and report completion to the Town Clerk.

**11. Reports of Committees:**

- **Planning Board:** no member present. Schochet noted there is a draft Flag Lot bylaw they would like OSC input on.
- **Recreation Commission:** Halloween ball scheduled.
- **Conservation Commission:** no member present.
- **Agriculture Commission:** no member present.

**12. Next Regular Meeting:** Next meeting will be 11/26/18.

**13. Adjournment:**

**Action:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 on motion by Flaccus, second by Perry.

Approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Larry Flaccus, Secretary pro-tem