

Shelburne Open Space Meeting Minutes

Dec 23,2019

Members present - David Schochet, Larry Flaccus, Jim Perry , Tom Johnson, Garth Lapointe, Norm Beebe, Joel Dwight

David called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Joel appointed Secretary pro tem

Minute minutes from 11/25/19 reviewed and accepted.

Larry introduced Recreational Trails Grant as a new agenda item and had to leave for a few minutes to attend the Selectboard meeting. Letters endorsing the Grant have been put forward by the GSFBA, DRWC, Shelburne Recreation Committee, OSC, and the Selectboard. The group then went on to other topics until Larry returned from the Selectboard meeting.

We then talked about the information Melissa had put forth on the new Trail project. Looking at the contour map showed most trail construction would take place outside of the 200 foot core habitat zone from the river. David spoke with Paul Janeke from the State concerning river rules effecting the trail. He also spoke with the Conservation Commission and they are sending a form to fill out for their assessment. Jim pointed out the bank behind the village maybe a sloped wetland and eventually we will have to talk about the steep area. We may want to do that along with the easier part and see if each zone would need to meet different requirements. Tom thought we should just concentrate on the dryer portion of the trail to keep the process as simple as possible for now and look into the steep wet bank later. David agreed with Tom that keeping it as simple as possible for now should be the approach we should take. Paul Janeke had told David the area beyond 200 feet from the river isn't regulated by the wetlands regulation act. Art Schwanger told David there is a good chance of receiving the funding from the State as they want to get all of the available money distributed. Janeke also said he would review our map after the holiday to see how the proposed trail might be affected by regulation. Larry told the group Josh from Timber and Stone had submitted a quote of \$27,000 dollars and Larry asked Melissa to speak with Josh to see if he could pare it down to meet our \$20,000 dollar budget. Josh was able to adjust down to \$18,700 dollars but it included 2 bridges and Larry thinks that has to be incorrect. So Melissa is going to find out. Larry also pointed out that if additional maps need to be made to go on with this project then the money for them should be included in the grant application. Tom thought that the proposed 35 foot bridge might take the place of multiple switchbacks while costing a similar amount of money and allow us to use the existing old roadbed. Garth pointed out the aluminum prefab boat docks come in similar lengths and might be considered as an alternative to the built in place

bridge Josh is proposing. When Larry addressing the Selectboard meeting Joe Palmeri thought the path may require zoning approval. We will have to look into that. Larry passed out copies of the draft of the OSC letter of support for the grant application. The group reviewed and voted to approve the letter of support. David expressed concern that we need to be sure we are able to fulfill the commitments we make. Larry pointed out that Josh's estimate is quite detailed and breaks down the project foot by foot. Larry would like Josh to come in and make a presentation of his report. Tom thought we may want to revise the proposal to make it very clear which portion of the trail we are seeking grant funding for. Larry said that is already covered in the proposal. Tom reported he spoke with Rita Jaros who is not in favor of the trail but will not stand in opposition to it. She is concerned about trash accumulating on the trail and we all agreed that needs to be addressed. Larry pointed out the Selectboard has a concern about parking. He also said we are trying to develop a mutually beneficial relationship with Joe at the Sweetheart and might eventually use the parking area across the street from the Sweetheart. The group voted to approve and submit the application along with seven letters of support.

Larry also spoke with Melissa about filing a Recreational Trails Grant application which would be due February 1, 2020. If we received that funding it could be used for Jane Hannaford trail work or a geotechnical analysis along the bank to Deerfield Avenue. Garth thought perhaps this funding could be applied to bridge construction proposed by Josh at Timber and Stone.

Larry also told us there is a DCR Recreational Trails grant that has quite a long lead time. Norm noted that in a year's time we might have a better idea of what to use the funding on. Jim thinks we should go for using funds on a geotechnical survey if we ever want to put the trail through to Deerfield Avenue. Larry wondered if a grant could be used to purchase the Jane Hannaford property. David said Art told him Jane's son is coming in for the holidays and she is going to talk to her son about the trail then.

Garth told us about making a trail up over the top at the Wooded Loop Trail where there is a view out to Greenfield within the current Loop system.

Meeting Adjourned 8:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joel Dwight