

Larry called the meeting to order at 7PM

Members Present: Larry Flaccus, David Schochet, Joan Greenfield, Norm Beebe, Jim Perry, Joel Dwight

Guests: Lara Radysh and Bob Higgins

Joel appointed secretary pro tem

Minutes from July 26 2021 OSC meeting were reviewed: **motion made to approve minutes** by Joan Greenfield seconded by David Schochet to accept the minutes as presented, **approved unanimously.**

- Riverside Trail Update:

Guntlow Associates have come up with an updated survey. We are still waiting on a quote to continue the survey. We are holding off the Conservation Committee hearing until we have more clarity on easements. **David had spoken with Bob Spencer**, doesn't know if he'll grant an easement but seemed open to allow the trail.

- Wooded Loop Trail Update:

Larry reported a message from Thor, that trail use seems to have diminished somewhat as a result of the logging that took place there and may take a while to rebound. **David reported** that mowing will probably be needed but he thinks Garth is away.

- Education Project:

Joan reported she and Cynthia will try to contact their previous teacher contact at Mohawk, Elia Wootenden. They are pursuing a train the trainer approach. Jim will help them. If they are unable to make contact with Ms.Wootenden they will contact the school directly. David suggested contacting the Director of Studies or equivalent position at Mohawk.

David reported the Ag Commission may be interested in participating in our education effort: David had a conversation with AgComm member Becky Ashenden about "model" farm project (having BSE students create garden plots on her property on Bassett Rd. **David also spoke with Carolyn Wheeler** (now officially chairperson of the Ag Commission) about who might be the AgComm liaison to the OSC. She said she'd contact members and discuss at the next AgComm meeting (not yet scheduled).

Joan suggested we could collaborate with the Ag Commission on the education effort. We'd need to communicate to see that the two would mesh and not conflict one another. Joan said we might gear up to do something in the spring. Larry observed that Covid Protocols may well be challenging and time consuming for the school at this point in time.

-OSC Membership

David contacted Helen Jenkins (member of the Conservation Commission) who had attended the last OSC meeting. David wondered if she would like to be a Conservation Commission liaison to the OSC. She's not currently prepared to do that but would still like to join the OSC to participate in outdoor work. **David spoke with John Wheeler** from the Planning Board. John will now act as their liaison to OSC until someone else steps forward.

Joel reported he had sent an email to Helena Farrell with FRCOG about the pollinator project plan for Shelburne but he's not heard back yet.

-Open Space and Recreation Plan issues

Joel contacted State Representative Natalie Blais concerning the possibility of extending the current 7 year renewal of the Open Space and Recreation Plan and making it a 10 or 12 year interval instead. He has not heard back from her. **Norm will have a phone appointment with Jonathon Gould**, a staffer from State Representative Adam Hinds office, to discuss a legislative approach to lengthening the Open Space and Recreation Plan renewal interval from the current 7 years, and waiving the requirement for small towns to have active OSRPs in order to be eligible for certain State grant funding.

David wondered if we could do something to show where we are now compared with 7 years ago without doing the full plan over--perhaps we could update the Action Plan without updating the entire plan.

Larry will talk with Peggy Sloan to see if FRCOG can help us with a plan update.

-Rec Committee

Norm reported they had an August meeting and will have one in September. Cowell Gym is still closed. They are discussing pickleball and looking in to putting a volleyball net on the Arms Academy field. They are hoping the softball league will be reinstated next year.

- Visitor / Guests Comments

Lara asked where on the town website she could find grant applications and letters that have been sent in. Larry said the letters are not posted but the grant applications should be under reports under the OSC. Lara looked and didn't see them there. Larry will look into it.

Next meeting Sept. 27th.

Motion to adjourn by Joan Greenfield, seconded by Joel Dwight. Meeting adjourned 7:41PM.