

Approved 11/22/2021

### Town of Shelburne Open Space Committee Meeting 10/25/21

Larry called the meeting to order at 7pm

**Members Present:** Larry Flaccus, David Schochet, Joanie Greenfield, Norm Beebe, Garth LaPointe and Joel Dwight

**Guests:** Cynthia Boettner, Lara Radysh, Bob Higgins

**September 27th minutes were reviewed.** Ellia Woofenden's name had been entered as Wootenden which was corrected. 9/27 minutes were accepted unanimously as amended.

Larry called for **additional agenda items**. Cynthia offered outreach to the schools. Larry added Working Forest Initiative Grant.

#### **Ongoing Business:**

**Shelburne Riverside Trail** - We are still waiting for a quote from Guntlow Associates as to what the remainder of the survey will cost. The Spencer property is for sale.

**Wooded Loop Trail** - Garth reported he went around and cleaned up blown down material after the last meeting. There is bittersweet on the orange trail that needs attention. Garth expects his bush hog to be repaired soon and he will let us know when he is going out again if people want to help.

**Education Project** - Cynthia reported not much new has happened since the last meeting but they will be **contacting Miss Woofenden at Mohawk Regional School** again soon. Her current position will work with a wide age range of students throughout the school district and she would like to include material about invasive species. Samantha Rutz does an invasives class and Nichole Rhodes might also be interested in working with us and perhaps looking into biology related careers for her students.

**Cynthia asked how long the OSC wanted to stay involved with the school and teachers.** She can continue to be of help this year but may not be able to continue on after that. **Larry said it** would be best if the teachers could take ownership of it and carry it forward. **Joan wondered** if the Committee has a commitment to getting the townspeople out walking and enjoying the trails and if the OSC supports the Recreation Committee on this aspect. **Jim suggested we might make available a packet** for teachers which includes information about the trails and invasives. **Cynthia thought we might send copies** of our brochures to various groups and schools that we feel may be interested in the trails and invasive species. **Norm said the Recreation Committee** used to send out sports-related notices to the schools and they may be able to do that about the trails. **Larry suggested we look into a grant** being made available from the Mount Grace Trust of \$5,000 maximum with no match require. **Larry will send the details out for all of us to review:** projects covered by the grant have to be finished by April 15th. **Garth thought we might do a five minute presentation at school staff meetings** to share what we have available. Garth will get input from his wife and he may be able to go to a few staff meetings. Norm

thought we might put together some material for teachers and send it to various schools. **Garth will work on a letter to teachers and Norm and his wife will review it. Joan wondered** if this effort would be ongoing through future years or was more of a one year pilot. **It was the sense of the Committee that we should continue to work on it.**

**CPA Status - Deerfield River Watershed Association sent the Selectboard a letter in support of the CPA as the OSC had already done.** The Shelburne CPA committee members have been reaching out to contact other associations. **Norm reported the Recreation Committee** didn't have a quorum at their last meeting but plans on **sending a letter of support for the CPA** at their next meeting which will take place sometime after November 3rd. Alissa LaRose from FRCOG has been working on promoting Shelburne adoption of the CPA.

**Open Space and Recreation Plan renewal** discussion will be deferred to the next meeting.

No new business. No correspondence. No guest comments. No Recreation Committee report.

**Garth wondered if anyone in the group would join a school class** if they were going on a walk during school hours. Cynthia thought we all might get together out on the trail to formulate an interpretive talk about the trail. **David will coordinate a walk on one of the trails with Cynthia to discuss topics about the trail. Weekends might be best.**

**Larry wondered if we had brochures for the Visitor Center.** Jim reported he has a supply and there are more at the Town Hall. Jim is collecting the money from the Visitor Center. **David mentioned updating the old " Preserving Shelburne's Natural Resources" brochure** which had functioned as both an intro to Shelburne's open spaces and a request for contributions to the town's Open Space Contribution Account. Larry thought we might fund such an update through the Mohawk Trail grant or the Mount Grace grant. **Norm wondered if the Conservation Commission** should walk along the proposed Riverside Trail. He will contact chairman Norman Davenport.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Jim Perry. Seconded by Norm Beebe.

Meeting adjourned 8:32pm

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joel Dwight  
Secretary Pro Tem