

# Shelburne Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes 3/28/22

Approved April 25, 2022

**Members Present** Norm Beebe, Larry Flaccus Joel Dwight, , Jim Perry, David Schochet

Larry called the meeting to order at 7:04pm.

The **February minutes** were approved as presented. Motion to approve by Jim Perry seconded by Norm Beebe passed unanimously.

## Committee Reports

**Norm reported for the Recreation Committee.** The Selectboard has approved opening the Cowell Gym for volleyball, pickleball, and basketball. They are still working out the times to open. The Rec Committee put out an email to assess softball interest and are awaiting responses. The Selectboard was in favor of requesting grant money for a skating rink on town property

## Trail Status Update

Jim reported **the Tower Trail Brochure is completed**; he sent one to be included in the town newsletter. The **Mohican Mohawk Trail Committee** has made a new trail map available and they will be working on sign boards and kiosks over the next two years. Jim will be putting a brochure box back at the Franklin Land Trust pullout. The Mohican Mohawk Trail Committee is trying to get the state to put the new trail map on the state website.

**Larry reported he is still working on a draft letter** for Margaret Payne and Helen to approach Cosbys about extending the Wooded Loop Trail to their side of Old Greenfield Road.

**Nothing new on the River Trail.** Larry will contact Guntlow's to see what is going on with getting an estimate for the property boundaries and easements survey. David mentioned the opportunity of creating a trail to link the Wooded Loop Trail with the Summit Road and (Larry added) he possibly joining to the Old Gorge Road down to Greenfield Meadows.

## CPA Update

Larry reported that the small working group had another meeting and are putting together materials for a second forum on Thursday, May 5th. He suggested if each of us could reach out to four or five people it would help at Town Meeting to get it on the ballot for fall voting. Larry will send a fact sheet out to our members. A brief discussion of the monetary benefits for the town, and the process for Town approval to join CPA, and to identify and approve proposals for using CPA money. Because joining and using CPA requires Town Meeting votes of approval, the flow of funds to be used on projects is fairly far into the future.

## Open Space and Recreation Plan Renewal

We have been granted \$7,000 in local technical assistance to help get this done. FRCOG told Larry a full plan would cost about \$20,000, with the \$7,000 to cover the community survey, sections 3 and 4, and

maps. Kimberly McPhee and Allison from FRCOG will be attending our April meeting. David noted Section 9, the action plan, also needs to be redone. Larry said we might be able to use part of the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership grant to match the \$7,000. Another possibility is splitting the update over two years which is what we did the last time. Joel thought the last time FRCOG was able to accomplish their work on the plan for less than the initial amount they had estimated. The Rec Committee will decide if they can use their full \$20,000 or be able to split it over two years.

**Jim said people are trying to form a Village Improvement Taskforce.** He wondered about refreshing or replacing the faded signs directing tourists in the village. He will approach Jessica from FRCOG regarding this. **David thought we might use Woodland Partnership money** to plot out a trail from the Wooded Loop to the Summit Road. Jim said he and Garth had flagged out a proposed route and thought perhaps Timber and Stone could look further into that. **Jim will call Garth and see what he thinks.**

Norm said he **felt there may be opposition to a skating rink** near Arms Academy and if there was a lot of opposition maybe **some of that funding could be directed to the renewal** of the Open Space and Recreation Plan.

There was no correspondence in the last month. No other committee representatives were available to make reports. No guests or guests comments at this meeting.

**Next meeting April 25th** with the reps from FRCOG discussing the Open Space and Recreation Plan renewal.

Motion to adjourn made by Jim Perry seconded by Norm Beebe. Meeting adjourned 8pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joel Dwight  
Secretary Pro Tem