

Shelburne Open Space Committee Meeting Minutes 12/27/22 DRAFT

Members present: Larry Flaccus, David Schochet, Jim Perry, Norm Beebe, Joel Dwight

Meeting called to order at 7:15. Norm recorded on Zoom.

Minutes of 11/28/22 reviewed. Motion to accept as presented by Jim Perry seconded by Norm Beebe. 11/28/22 minutes accepted unanimously as presented.

New Agenda Items:

Mass Trails has asked the OSC to sign onto a letter supporting Mass trails.

Trail Status Update:

Jim said he removed quite a few branches off the Tower Trails and he'll be checking the Wooded Loop trails soon. Larry mentioned the good feedback we are receiving about the trail hikes Jim led. David wondered how we could increase participation in those hikes. Jim mentioned a number of ways we are already getting the word out. Norm said he will share information about the hikes through his Rec Committee channels.

Survey Status Report:

Between 130-140 have responded with the survey over the internet and about 20 by paper. Larry is going to send a message about the survey to the Grange in January. Larry said Andrea is very pleased with the response. Larry hoped we could do better. The group decided to extend the time for responses through January. Norm will put a notice on the Rec Committee list serve. David will notify folks in the Shelburne Center area. The information about the survey will also be in the town newsletter. Larry noted that funding for projects may be available through the CPA and this survey will help identify where those funds might be used. The next step will be FRCOG compiling the results of the survey then a public meeting most likely by Zoom. Andrea sent out a chapter on Shelburne history for review and we will all try to review it for our next meeting. She thought maybe it was too long and not focused enough on Open Space and Recreation. Larry will send it out again to all of us.

Next Steps in Funding Renewal:

Larry will write a note to the Select Board that we need another \$7,000 in the 2023 funding round from FRCOG to cover the costs of creating a new Open Space and Recreation plan.

New Business:

We were requested to sign onto a letter addressed to the governor supporting the Mass Trails program in the Department of Conservation and Recreation that provides funding for trails. Norm will circulate it among Rec Committee members. It needs to be signed by name and name of organization and has to be back by December 30th. Motion made to sign onto the letter by Jim Perry seconded by Norm Beebe and Jim will sign on for the Deerfield River Watershed Association.

Liaison Reports:

Norm reported for the Rec Committee that the senior walking program will begin in January. It is free and will be Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9-10AM. Youth basketball has started at Cowell Gym. Adult basketball is going two days a week, volleyball one day a week, and pickleball three days a week. Tai Chi is coming back in March. Ice skating will also be happening; weather permitting. The Rec Committee purchased a skating rink liner for Stefan Topolski to use.

Jim reported there is a four week webinar held Thursdays at noon about the benefits of Open Space to the community.

Next meeting January 23rd 2023 at 7 PM by Zoom

Motion made to adjourn by Norm Beebe seconded by Jim Perry

Meeting adjourned 7:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joel Dwight

Secretary Pro Tem